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JOHN BULL

Vol. XI. No. 279. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1911. ONE PENNY

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

For meaning of this No. see Page 11. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

ARE WOMEN FAILURES IN BUSINESS?

AN

IMPORTANT ARTICLE
IN THIS WEEK'S

MRS. BULL

which should be read by all business women—AND MEN.

Buy a copy TO-DAY.
On Sale Everywhere.

BARGAINS IN
SECOND-HAND FURNITURE.

TO BE SOLD PRIVATELY BY

The NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.),

92, 93, & 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

The following goods having been removed from Holland Road, Kensington; Glenheim Mansions, Lisson Grove; Summerville Road, Thames Ditton; Maddox Street, W.; Goldhurst Terrace, Hampstead; Westhill, St. Leonards-on-Sea; Theobald's Park, and elsewhere, are offered at half the original cost, and comprise, amongst other articles too numerous to mention, the following general household effects. Bedroom furniture—6 oak bedroom suites, from £4 15s.; 3 white enamelled bedroom suites, from £4 4s.; 5 solid oak bedroom suites, with large wardrobe and dressing table, with side cheval glasses, £5 17s. 6d.; walnut bedroom suite, reflex mirrors to dressing table, £8 8s.; an inlaid Sheraton design mahogany bedroom suite, £7 17s. 6d.; a similar suite, £10 15s.; 4 ft. to 6 in. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, oval glass door to wardrobe, 12 guineas; 4 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, with Beaconsfield wardrobe, £15 10s.; 5 ft. mahogany bedroom suite, with 2 oval doors to wardrobe, reflex mirrors to dressing table, 19 guineas; 6 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, fitted drawers and trays, 24 guineas; 6 ft. Louis design mahogany bedroom suite, 28 guineas; 6 ft. walnut bedroom suite, 40 guineas; 7 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, with bow front to wardrobe, 60 guineas; 7 ft. satinwood bedroom suite, 10 guineas; several inlaid chests, from 50s.; 6 ft. walnut wardrobe, 15 guineas; 6 ft. 6 in. mahogany wardrobe, fitted drawers and trays, 12 guineas; several iron bedsteads, from 9s.; black and brass bedsteads, 10s.; full size black and brass bedsteads, with wire springs, 21s.; 9 oak bedsteads, 15s.; pair brass twin bedsteads, 5 guineas; pair white and brass twin bedsteads, 3 guineas; inlaid Sheraton bedstead, including wire spring mattress, £3 15s.; full size all brass bedstead, 60s.; pair mahogany twin bedsteads, £2 19s. 6d.; full size all brass square tube Italian bedstead, 8 guineas, and several others up to 18 guineas. The Dining Room furniture comprises fumed oak dining room suite, consisting of large size sideboard, 6 chairs, 2 carving chairs, overmantel, dining table, rug, etc., will accept £13 7s. 6d. the lot; most massive carved oak Elizabethan design dining room set, consisting of sideboard with bevelled plate glass back, oxydised copper fittings, fitted cellarette, 6 massive carved oak chairs, and 2 carving chairs to match, dining table, 16 guineas the set; a similar set, with large sideboard and 2 lounge easy chairs, upholstered in red leather, 25 guineas; magnificent oak dining room suite, £8 15s.; oak suite, in green pegamoid, £3 19s. 6d.; sideboard to match, 4 guineas; overmantel, 30s.; Queen Anne design dining room suite, £5 15s.; sideboard to match, £7 15s.; dining table, £2 15s.; handsome Queen Anne design mahogany dining room set, upholstered in red leather, £7 19s. 6d. dining table to match, 4 guineas; Chippendale design set of chairs, ball and claw feet, exquisite design, 12 guineas; oak, walnut and mahogany sideboards, large variety in stock, from £4 10s. to 40 guineas; about 50 odd dining room chairs; 20 dining tables, from 21s.; oak bureau, 21s.; pedestal writing tables; roll top desks, all sizes; revolving bookcases; a most superb Chesterfield, and 2 large club easy chairs to match in green leather, £15 10s.; mahogany secretaire bookcase, enclosed by 2 glass doors, cupboards, under 8 guineas. The Drawing Room furniture comprises very fine drawing room suite, upholstered in art tapestry, £3 10s.; another design suite, £6 10s.; satinwood finish drawing room suite, 7 guineas; an elegant design Louis XIV. gilt drawing room suite, £19 10s.; another set, similar design, 14 guineas.; Chesterfield drawing room suite, with 2 large lounge easy chairs, and 4 solid mahogany chairs, most exquisite design, £12 12s. 6d.; large size double sprung Chesterfield and 2 large easy chairs to match, covered in silk tapestry, 22 guineas; set of Dutch Marquetrie chairs, 14 guineas; handsome design Vernis Marten cabinet, 16 guineas; another, 12 guineas; Buhl cabinet, 11 guineas; another, 14 guineas; table en suite, 8 guineas; Chesterfields, from £3 10s. to 10 guineas; Chippendale design cabinet, £2 19s. 6d.; similar one, £5 15s.; Sheraton design cabinet, £3 15s.; Sheraton design specimen table, 50s.; occasional tables, from 12s. 6d.; occasional chairs, 50 in stock, from 6s. 6d.; 2 white enamel over-manteis, 18s. 6d. and 27s. 6d.; oval gilt table, 10 guineas; pair 9-light candelabra, 6 guineas; 5-light candelabra, 10 guineas; clock in ormulu case, £8 15s.; piano, 8 guineas; an upright piano, iron frame, £12 15s.; ditto, by Carl Strauss, 20 guineas; and several others in stock up to 40 guineas; grand pianos by Steinway, Bechstein, Bluthner, etc. Large stock of carpets, Tapestry, Mirzapore, Turkey, and Oriental carpets and rugs to match, from 18s. 6d.; a large variety of Axminster and Wilton carpets, always in stock, from £2 15s. Hall furniture—Hall stands, from 20s.; hall cupboard, 3 guineas; large quantity of electro-plate, china, cutlery, kitchen utensils, curtains, bed and table linen, etc.

Country buyers should call and inspect these goods. All goods delivered Town or Country free of charge, or can remain stored 12 months free of charge. All goods can be seen where they are now lying for the convenience of sale, any day from 9 till 9, except Saturday, when we close at 7 o'clock, at

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92, 93, & 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.,

one door from Oxford Street, three minutes from Tottenham Court Road, and Oxford Circus, and adjoining all principal Tubes. Telephone 1397 Central. £10,000 worth of second-hand furniture always on show. Catalogues now ready. Special attention given to Export Orders.

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Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL **of specified date** bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the issue and number, pay the sum of **TWO GUINEAS** in return for his using the best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all work done.

The following claims have been received for our issue of Sept. 26th.

R. FRASER, 1a, Durant Street, Hackney Road, N.E., No. 90,[illegible] August 26.

E. BRYANT, 15, Tottenham Court Road, W., No. [illegible] August 26th.

MRS. M. DAWES, 82b, The Chase, Clapham Common, S.W., No. 178,236. August 26th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of September 26th—

763	**21923**	**36946**	**51404**	61806
98240	**114977**	**131324**	**159204**	174431
189696	**205936**	**218386**	**232930**	242678
253696	**271358**	**309510**	**327633**	340486
353220	**368522**	**415268**	**428052**	443478
458323	**477888**	**504850**	**517646**	532847
560570	**580267**	**594206**	**607353**	628349
649630	**661066**	**684369**	**695702**	721763
725746	**736726**	**745990**	**765700**	766196
772278	**813147**	**827281**	**840017**	850840

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE [illegible] IN OUR ISSUE DATED NOVEMBER 4TH (PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 2ND).

The John Bull League.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XI. No. 279. Saturday, October 7th, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.
All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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TO READERS ABROAD.

JOHN BULL *is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the Continent as follows:—Paris, at the Railway Stations—Nord, Ouest, P.L.M., Orleans, l'Est: the principal Kiosques on the Boulevards, etc.: Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshop, 248, rue de Rivoli: Libraries—Timotei, rue Castiglione: Brentano's, Avenue de l'Opera: Byron, rue Castiglione: Galignani, 224, rue de Rivoli: Anglaise, Avenue Victor Hugo: Charruet, rue d'Isty: Lebeau, Avenue Kleber: F. Tennant Pain, 18, rue Favart, Wholesale and Continental Representative. Railway Bookstalls and principal Libraries at Marseilles, Hyeres, Cannes, St. Raphael, Nice, Beaulieu, Monaco, Monte Carlo, Mentone. In India, A. H. Wheeler & Co., and all their railway bookstalls. It is also obtainable through Messrs. Gordon & Gotch's Agencies in the Colonies.*

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

GRAND GALA DAY

AT THE

FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE, CRYSTAL PALACE, TO-DAY (SATURDAY),

Prior to the Opening of the Autumn and Winter Campaign.

Continuous Fun and Frolic from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

GREAT PUBLIC MEETING

To be addressed by the President,

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, ESQ., M.P.,

IN THE CENTRE TRANSEPT, at 7.30 p.m.,

When he will announce his Political Intentions and the Programme of the League.

Special Reduced Terms for admission to Festival of Empire and all attractions.

During the afternoon BURGESS will give a Swimming Exhibition, after which he will be presented with the "JOHN BULL" CUP and CHEQUE for £100 and Mr. G. A. OLLEY, the Champion Cyclist, will attempt to beat the twenty miles cycle record, paced by Mr. HARRY TATE, the popular sketch artist.

For further particulars and Coupon for Railway Pass, &c., see page 509.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

MR. BOTTOMLEY'S PRONOUNCEMENT.

At the meeting of the John Bull League at the Crystal Palace to-day (Saturday), the President will make an important declaration as to his own intentions and the policy and programme of the League in the immediate future. A full report of Mr. Bottomley's speech—*which will probably be boycotted by the general Party Press*—will be published in our next issue.

MR. JUSTICE AVORY.

Since the elevation of Mr. Horace Avory to the Bench we have studiously refrained from criticising his conduct, being sincerely desirous of affording him every opportunity of vindicating the wisdom of an appointment which we looked upon as an undesirable one. But we cannot forbear, in the public interest pointing out that he has already earned the distinction of being the only judge who has had a death sentence quashed by the Court of Criminal Appeal. And when we remember the intimate personal relations subsisting between the judges, great gravity attaches to the words of Mr. Justice Darling in delivering the judgment of the Court. "Very powerful observations made by the judge on points which he described as vital were ill-founded, and based upon a misapprehension as to what were the facts." Such a judgment, coupled with observations which fell from the Court of Appeal in another case the same day, would warrant a Petition for Mr. Justice Avory's removal from the Bench. Just imagine what would have happened if we had no Court of Appeal—a man, possibly innocent (and who must now be assumed to be innocent) would have gone to the gallows as the result of misdirection by the Judge, owing to his misconception of the facts of the case. It is the Beck business—in which Mr. Horace Avory of that day played so important a part—over again.

GENTLEMEN, JACK JOHNSON!

That is the toast. Jack is the real hero of the piece (we deal with the spurious one elsewhere). He has also been the gentleman of the piece. And what fools he must think we are! Never was a more crushing, or a more merited, rebuke administered to a nation than when this black gentleman said, "I was prepared to take up arms for England—*but not now.*" Talk about racial danger! More harm has been done to the prestige of the white man, in the eyes of the black, by the action of the authorities over this Fight business than—well, than by half-a-dozen foreign missions! Hats off to Jack Johnson.

THE UNIVERSAL STRIKE.

We have been reading a remarkable little book, published twenty years ago and now reprinted at 6d. by Messrs. Odhams, called "The Universal Strike." The author, William Oakhurst, is an odd man who "sees things." Get the book.

Which is Lying?

On Saturday we read the following headlines in our *Daily Mail*:—

Promise of Good Times.
Country's Prospering Trade.

Then we turned to the *Daily News* and found:—

Hard Winter for the Poor.

Well, well, well, they can't both be true. The funny thing about it is that the Tariff Reform journal is so optimistic and the Free Trade magazine so pessimistic. Where were the sub-editors? Perhaps—but we forget; the *Daily News* young man drinks nothing but cocoa!

Breaking Up the Happy Home.

Another of the "stately homes of England," not a castle this time, but a "hall," the hall of a real, live duke, has been almost a drug in the market. There was not a single American present to bid for the marbles, stones, and bricks of Trentham Hall, Staffordshire, lately sold by the Duke of Sutherland because the polluted condition of the River Trent forbade his grace and her grace and all the little graces from utilising it as a residence. The house was on sale bit by bit, but nobody wanted the magnificent central tower, which was actually bought in at fifty pounds. It would have looked very slick on Fifth Avenue. The elaborately carved decorations of Trentham's billiard room were given away at £56, while marble stairs and floorings fetched so little that the prices were not even mentioned. The hustling millionaires have, for once, lost a golden opportunity. We should have expected them to jump at the chance of a duke's door-step.

Sickening.

What's the matter with the Medical Officers at the Connaught Hospital, Aldershot? We can quite imagine that there are some malingerers in the Army. But surely when a man reports himself "sick" doctors should have sufficient technical knowledge to detect whether he is shamming. A case is brought to our notice where a young soldier who so reported himself was told he was a malingerer, "checked" for not having shaved, and returned to duty. The following day he reported "sick" again, and this time was admitted to hospital. He died within a few hours!

Bang Went £70,000.

We hear a great deal of the horrors of war; the accidental destruction of costly airships is apparently one of the horrors of peace. The "Mayfly" has not survived even the criticisms of the experts, who predicted that she would not fly, or that if she did she would break her back. The miracle is that she hasn't broken somebody's neck.

Stony.

An Edinburgh reader says:—

> Surely your report of the sermon preached by Archdeacon Wilberforce on the "Stone of Destiny" is incomplete. No doubt he also mentioned the equally well authenticated evidence that the stone was the one used by David to knock out Goliath; and that it was also the "first stone" which was not thrown at the woman taken in adultery.

Our correspondent might have added that perhaps it was a corner stone of King Solomon's Temple.

A Close Thing.

The race between John Bull and *Mrs. Bull* for the Circulation Stakes is proving a close thing. Mary has come on enormously of late.

Pateley Bridge Relieving Officer.

A vacancy having occurred for a Relieving and Vaccination Officer at Pateley Bridge, the Guardians have advertised for applications, fixing the salary at £50 a year. Here is one they have received, we understand:—

"Gentlemen,—I am 35 years of age and have 43 years and 3 months' experience of Poor Law; this discrepancy being accounted for by the fact that I have put in a lot of overtime. I am thoroughly acquainted with all the Orders of the Local Government Board, including those not yet thought of; also with English, shorthand, and Yorkshire. I am an accomplished book-keeper, and am fully experienced in the best and most up-to-date methods of keeping case papers, wall-papers, newspapers, and flypapers. In consideration of the munificent salary, amounting to 19s. 2¼d. a week, less superannuation deductions, which you are offering as a temptation to fortune hunters, I am prepared to take the post of Sanitary Inspector (which you also advertise) without any salary whatever, and will find at my own cost all disinfectants if you will pay postage. In my spare time and on Bank Holidays I am willing to act as official rat-catcher to the workhouse, and will also weed the garden." Let us at once relieve the mind of this gentleman by saying that his application will not be carefully considered. He is too accomplished for the job.

Bumblepuppy.

While the gallant Earl of Halsbury has been building sand castles for the tide to wash away, some of his Majesty's Ministers have been playing Bumblepuppy. You tie a ball to a piece of string, and you tie the string to a pole, and then two players strike the ball alternately, the object of each being to wind the string tightly round the pole. The two gentlemen who engaged in this blissful relaxation the other day were Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Walter Runciman. Sir Edward confessed that he found the game "good, but tiresome." We can recommend blindman's buff as a pastime of which Sir Edward would not tire in a hurry. It would suit him, and he should soon become an expert. As for Mr. Runciman, we are surprised to find him tying his bumblepuppy with string. What's the matter with red tape?

Leith's Penny Egg.

The Leith magistrates have sentenced a lad of 17 to three days' imprisonment, with the option of paying a fine of 5s., for stealing a penny egg from a case at the docks. We trust he had friends or parents to pay the money, and that the magistrates did not impose the fine as a pretext for sending him to gaol without a chance, for that would mean they have deliberately engaged themselves in the making of a criminal. It ought not to be within their power to punish lads in this way for a first offence. The exposure and a warning should be considered sufficient. Gaol ought to be the last punishment to be thought of, not the first.

From Leith to Edinburgh.

Per contrast, Bailie Smith Elliot, of Edinburgh, has just let off on probation the foreman of a boot shop who has been systematically stealing his employer's stock for nearly three years. Queer that Edinburgh should have to commiserate with Leith at a time when Leith is commiserating with Edinburgh, isn't it?

Earth, Heaven and Hell.

We were listening the other day to a Socialist orator at an outdoor meeting. "What we want," said he, "is the Earth; the capitalists may fight for Heaven and Hell between them." And the sentiment was loudly applauded!

BLUE BLOOD.

The latest Army Reformer seems to be an officer in the Northumberland Fusiliers, stationed at Gharial. He insists that every man in his company shall be in possession of an enamelled plate, basin and mug. These must be placed (when not in use) in a certain position on the soldier's shelf. The order to purchase these utensils is, in itself, not so bad; but the officer insists that the enamel shall all be one colour—blue, and when it wears, or gets broken off, he insists that the metal portion that is exposed shall receive a coat of liquid enamel—blue, of course.

PROFIT SHARING.

Here is a flagrant instance of how our inland production of food is throttled by railway rates. Recently a fruit grower in Gloucestershire sent 47 baskets of pears to the Leicester market. Sold on commission, they realised £2 7s., but when railway carriage, cartage, and commission had been paid the grower found that he had exactly one penny remaining for his 47 baskets of fruit. A precisely similar process goes on in regard to English eggs. We pay huge sums of money for the foreign yolk, yet the British poultry farmer is strangled in his efforts to get his new laid eggs across a few miles of country because the railway companies absorb all his profits. Under a Business Government—well, you know the rest.

LAID BY THE HEELS.

There is one mendacious newsvendor the less by the temporary disappearance of Mr. Henry Smith from the streets of London. We are all familiar with the sort of person who makes our hair stand on end like quills upon the fretful porcupine by shouting "'Orrible Murder o' the Dook o' Westminister!" charging a penny for the news, which isn't in the paper, and scooting before we have time to discover that we have been the victims of an 'orrible imposition. Mr. Smith similarly amused himself the other evening by shouting "War between France and Germany," insulting people who offered only a ha'penny for his papers, and breaking three of the teeth of the policeman who arrested him. He is now doing three months' hard labour—that is, a month a tooth—and deserves all he has got.

"SACRED DUST."

It is not improbable that the cremation of Canon Duckworth will shock the religious sentiments of people who believe that there is a necessary connection between earth burial and the Resurrection. One frequently hears the argument, "But if people have their bodies burned to ashes, how can they rise again from the dead at the sound of the last trump?" They are, of course, ignorant of the elementary fact that, Resurrection or no Resurrection, the body in the earth is eventually resolved into dust like the cremated body, though the process is of longer duration. No doubt the day will come when cremation will be the law of the land.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Apropos of our recent reference to the large amount of unclaimed balances in the hands of the Post Office Savings Bank, a reader says:—

> May I offer a suggestion, as one of the victims of the Birkbeck Bank failure, that the balances left in the P.O. Bank would be well disposed of if they were handed over to the sufferers by the Birkbeck Bank? I myself, at 62 years of age, have lost the half of a life's savings—savings that in my old days would keep me from falling upon the poor rates. No doubt there are even harder cases than mine. If you will kindly bring this before the public in your invaluable JOHN BULL, you will be doing us unfortunate victims a great favour.

We have much pleasure in commending the proposal to the Postmaster-General.

NOT THEIR VERY OWN!

Here is a funny coincidence:—

Daily News OWN CORRESPONDENT:
NEW YORK, Friday.

The familiar Virgilian line "Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes" explains the crushing defeat of Sir W. Laurier, the unseating of three-fourths of his Cabinet Ministers, and the failure of his policy of Reciprocity or Free Trade in natural products between Canada and the United States. Ontario, thanks chiefly to the extremely astute editor of the Toronto *News*, was led to believe that the Yankees had sinister designs on their northern neighbours, even though Washington was offering gifts in the shape of larger markets. Ontario does not like Brother Jonathan, and when the Toronto *News* and *Mail* and *Empire* began to wave the Union Jack in the air and to brandish the Stars and Stripes before the voters' eyes they had no trouble in persuading Canadians to vote for King George rather than President Taft.

Morning Leader OWN CORRESPONDENT:
NEW YORK, Friday.

The familiar Virgilian line, "Timeo danaos et dona ferentes," explains the crushing defeat of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, three-fourths of his Cabinet Ministers, and his policy of reciprocity or free trade in natural products.

Ontario, thanks chiefly to the extremely astute editor of the *Toronto News*, was led to believe that the Yankees had sinister designs on their northern neighbours, even though Washington was offering gifts in the shape of larger markets. Ontario does not like brother Jonathan, and when the *Toronto News* and *Mail* and *Empire* began to wave the Union Jack in the air and brandish the Stars and Stripes before the voters' eyes, they had no trouble in persuading the Canadians to vote for King George rather than President Taft.

More "Journalistic decency."

DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

According to the Duke of Devonshire, as the nineteenth century has seen the creation of wealth, so the twentieth century will to a very large extent see its distribut on. This prospect should please Socialists and others. Will the Duke be kind enough to give Mr. Keir Hardie early intimation of his own distributing day, as Mr. Hardie intends to take a front seat in the stalls?

BALANCE SHEET WANTED.

A few weeks ago a tournament was held at Chatham, in aid of the "Sailors and Marines Orphans' Homes." Many of our Service readers write us that collecting boxes have for years been hung up in barracks and ships, and grants have been given also from canteen funds. Our correspondents do not object to all this—but what they do object to is the fact that they never see a balance sheet. In this we think they are perfectly right. Men who support an institution by voluntarily subscribing to the various boxes, and compulsory subscriptions—through their canteen funds—not to mention sweating and tearing through a tournament—have a right to know how their money is spent. Perhaps the Committee will send us along their latest report.

MAGISTRATE, FARMER AND COW.

Certain Alresford magistrates, names unknown to us, have handsomely treated Farmer Frances Browning Okes, of Ropley. Farmer Okes drove a cow from his farm into a field, with its horn tied down to its fetlock. On the way he beat it so violently that the poor creature lost its other horn, blood flowing freely. Afterwards he tied up the animal till it fell on its knees, when he beat it again, picked up handsful of grit, rubbed it into the bleeding wounds, and indulged in other cruelties. At any rate, these were the allegations made by the witnesses for the prosecution, and apparently the Bench believed them, for they fined Farmer Okes £1 and costs

Policemen on Strike.

The policeman is often on the beat but seldom on strike; at Greenock thirty of him appear to have created a precedent. All the trouble has arisen because the Chief Constable insists upon the compulsory education of constables at a time when they are entitled to rest. Nearly all the men are employed on night duty, and they claim that if they are to go to school again under compulsion for two hours three times a week, they should be allowed that time off their duty. Thirty constables refused to acquire knowledge on being summoned to class. The Chief has retaliated by dismissing two of them and suspending a third. If he has a right to impose on the police duties extraneous to their office, then, of course, he has as much right to compel them to go to school and learn writing, arithmetic and drawing as he would have to order them to shoulder a broom and sweep the streets. It goes without saying that even a policeman is no worse for a knowledge of the "three R's." Whether it should be thrust upon him after his appointment, when it has not been insisted as a qualification for the job, is another story.

Cruel Chemists.

We were interested by the psychology of Mr. Kensit's devout clerk, who never drank intoxicating liquor, never went out at night, "had no love affair, read the Bible diligently"—and then committed suicide. Evidently his goodness was not its own reward, for he did not find an austere life worth living. We are also interested in the psychology of the firm of chemists in Newgate Street who refused a little chalk and water to save the good young man's life after he had taken poison. They may have been within their legal rights, but we cannot congratulate them on their humanity. There ought to be a law to compel chemists to give assistance on a serious emergency of this kind.

Frank Filibusters.

As a piece of international cheek, we confess we have never heard of anything to compare with the present attitude of the Italian Government. It has long coveted this piece of Turkish Africa, but there is no more reason for seizing it than for raiding Constantinople. Yet now, in piping times of peace, without the faintest shadow of a pretext, it suddenly demands a protectorate, which, of course, amounts to annexation. It is as though we were to take a fancy to an old gentleman's watch and chain, and thereupon order him to stand and deliver. But Turkey is weak, harassed by rebellions, embarrassed financially, without a friend in the world—so we suppose Italy must have her way. What will be the consequences to Young Turkish rule remains to be seen. We are disposed to anticipate another revolution at an early date.

A Suggestion.

One of our readers says that a short time ago he noticed in one of the illustrated papers Dr. Clifford posing as a boxer before some of his friends. The pictorial illustration represented him in the exact attitude of one about to deliver the blow known in boxing circles as the "upper cut," which clearly shows the Doctor to be an expert in the "manly art." Our correspondent suggests that, in order to satisfy all parties concerned, Dr. Clifford should take the place of Wells with Jack Johnson, and hand over his share of the stakes to some Nonconformist charity to be named by the Rev. F. B. Meyer. What says Wells?

The Festival of Empire.

It will be nothing short of a national calamity if the present show at the Crystal Palace is allowed to come to an end this year. The destruction of the buildings would be an act of wicked vandalism.

With the Hare and the Hounds.

The following editorial comment appeared in a recent issue of a contemporary:—

> When I heard the startling intelligence that the Eighty Club, whatever that may be, had decided to visit the Emerald (and placid) Isle of St. Patrick in order to study on the spot Home Rule, Rome Rule, and snakes, I muttered to myself the ancient formula, "God Save Ireland!" for, indeed, her sufferings never cease. . . ., Ireland is a poor country, and there was a pretty humility in the Eighty Club's appropriation for the journey to Holyhead of the train de luxe, usually reserved for the King of Spain and other royalties.

Our readers will appreciate the point when they are informed that the editor of that contemporary is the "P. W. W." who accompanied the Eighty Club on their peregrinations and reported their proceedings with enthusiastic approval in the columns of the *Daily News!*

The Cadi's Contempt.

There are times when the officials of the London County Council drive their power and authority a little too hard. Apparently they do not realise that there is such a thing as the spirit as well as the letter of the law. In summoning a poor man at Marylebone Court the other day for keeping a dog without a licence, they applied the letter—and the letter, without doubt, was unjust and oppressive. The man, in fact, had had the dog only two days when he was served with the summons. Rightly, the magistrate suggested that in the circumstances the County Council should withdraw from the proceedings. Their representative declined, being out for his pound of flesh. "Then the defendant is fined one penny without costs," quoth the magistrate. It was a contemptuous snub for L.C.C. officialdom, and thoroughly well earned. Oh, for a Business Council!

English Taught Here.

We are a hospitable folk, altruistic also, for do not we love the alien as a brother? In the Sussex Road Council School, Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, an evening class has been opened for the education of foreign clerks in the English language—at a penny a lesson, the expense of same falling on the over-burdened London ratepayer. However, all is not yet lost. If the education authority teaches the English language to the foreigner no better than it teaches foreign languages to the English, we fear no foe.

We Beg to Ask ——.

"Jack" is a sailor in the 2nd Division Home Fleet. He is a married man and his home is at Portsmouth. At the time of writing his ship was anchored in Portsmouth Harbour. We fancy some of our Naval readers will exclaim "Lucky man!" Wait. "Jack" can't swim ashore. That would be a breach of Naval discipline. Orders on board are issued that Portland men must go ashore in a privately-owned steamer, for which a charge of 3d. is made. This steamer does not go to Portland; it lands the men at Weymouth. Here the Portland men must board a tram for Portland—another 3d. May we respectfully ask the Admiralty how it is that these men cannot have a "liberty boat"?

Edmund Burke on Party.

It is of no consequence what the principles of any Party, or what their pretensions are; the spirit which actuates all parties is the same: the spirit of ambition; of self-interest; of oppression and treachery.—(*From "Vindication. of National. Society"*).

"INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION IMMINENT."

This was the wording of one of our recent contents bills, and we have been much taken to task in various quarters in consequence. We regret that we see no reason to either withdraw or modify our words.

MORE REFORMATORY HORRORS.

We duly called the attention of the Home Office to our recent article under this heading, and offered, in the event of an enquiry being instituted, to place all the evidence in our possession at the disposal of the authorities. At the time of going to press we are awaiting their decision. Meanwhile, we return to the subject.

RUSSIAN HUSTLE.

When they *do* hustle the legal system in Russia, they can be very quick. Bogroff, the police-spy who assassinated M. Stolypin, has now been hanged a week or more; Miss Malecka is still lying in a Russian prison without trial, and apparently without being made acquainted with the charge against her. Has Sir Edward Grey any further news of this lady?

EX-P.C. GREAVES.

Greaves is now out of the police force. He informs us that unless he can find some employment he will be obliged to leave England. In view of what may happen in the near future in regard to the Clapham murder, we think it would be well if a job could be found for him in London. We shall be glad to put him in touch with any employer who requires a man who runs straight.

THE "HERO" OF LLANELLY.

Harold Spiers, the soldier who didn't refuse to fire when he wasn't ordered to do so, has been sentenced to fourteen days' detention in barracks. His trial has cost the country something like a hundred pounds. Spiers was defended by a solicitor engaged by the Llanelly branch of the I.L.P. We have no idea what that solicitor's costs may be, but whatever they were, Spiers whole carcase wasn't worth them. A man who could tell such a good story, and then spoil it, deserves to be shot!

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

(Overheard in the train.) "Boy, bring me a newspaper—*and also the 'Daily News.'*"

WHAT WE ARE COMING TO!

THINGS WE MIGHT SEE YET!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For stating that: "A tramway car was used at Kingston Hill Saturday morning while in a state of SOMNAMBULISM,"
THE BLACKPOOL HERALD AND FYLDE ADVERTISER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in a story published in the "Daily Express," that: "EVERY SATURDAY MORNING SAW HIM DEPART *from Downing Street;* NOT SELDOM *the departure was accomplished on* FRIDAY NIGHT,"
Mr. J. S. FLETCHER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a legal report: "At the foot of the letter were a number of 'crosses,' PRESUMABLY *representing crosses,"*
THE MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following "Legal Answer": "'*Victim*' (*Walkley*).—*When a tenant agrees to pay rent 'clear of rates and taxes' the meaning is that all rates and taxes, except landlord's property tax, fall on the* TENANT,"
THE SHEFFIELD EVENING TELEGRAPH AND STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "The island residence of the LATE *Rev. G. Heaven, owner of Lundy Island, who is* AT PRESENT *residing at Torrington, is undergoing renovation and alterations,"*
THE EXPRESS AND ECHO (Exeter)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "On Tuesday Sir Wilfrid Laurier will pay an UNEXPECTED *visit to Montreal,"*
THE STANDARD (Montreal)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its account of the recent French naval disaster, that: "The first explosion took place at five o'clock, and soon after a second and third explosion followed. THEN *came the fifth,"*
THE DAILY GRAPHIC
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its October issue "*SPRING *cleaning is almost over,"*
HEALTH AND VITALITY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in an account of the chasing of a hare, that" it plunged its nose into the contents of a dust-bin, and LIKE THE CAMEL, *thought it was safe,"*
THE HAMILTON ADVERTISER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that press telegrams "should be ADDRESSED IN FULL *to 'The Royal Automobile Club Journal, London'* (NO ADDRESS IS NECESSARY),"
THE ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB JOURNAL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For advertising for sale by auction "*SLOP PAIL AND CONTENTS,"
MESSRS. F. DAVEY AND CO. (Dorking)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

*For stating that amongst the recent donations to the Chichester Infirmary was "*CONSECRATED *chicken broth,"*
THE OBSERVER AND WEST SUSSEX RECORDER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "For the second year in succession the Saints have been beaten at the Dell by Bristol Rovers, and on Saturday "the feat was accomplished without the LATTER *scoring a goal,"*
THE FOOTBALL EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

MEDDLING, MAUDLIN MEYER.

A PLAIN TALK WITH A PRURIENT PURITAN.

By Horatio Bottomley.

I have a few words to say about the Rev. F. B. Meyer, B.A.—the "hero" of the Stop-the-Fight Campaign.

First of all, why "Reverend"? He is not a priest. And why "Meyer"? He is a Christian (or, at any rate, he thinks he is)! But let these two small points pass. One more question, though. Why is he called a "Free" Church Minister?

Free Church, forsooth. It is rank blasphemy to mention the word "freedom" in connection with the tyranny which characterises this type of man. Many years ago, the late Sir Wilfrid Lawson introduced into the House of Commons a teetotal measure which he had the humorous effrontery to designate a "Permissive" Bill. A fellow member said it should be described as a "Bill to permit you to prevent me from drinking a glass of beer if I want to." The title "Free Church Party" is on all fours with the above. The only sort of "freedom" Messrs. Meyer and Co. are struggling for is the "freedom" to be allowed to compel all other sections of the community to conform to their own peculiar tenets. I know that Mr. Churchill professes that his action in regard to the Fight was based on the ground that the contest would have been illegal; it is a significant fact that he did not show any signs of interfering until pressure was put upon him by the "Nonconformist Conscience." Oh, that Nonconformist Conscience!

The Real Reason.

Let us then get to the *fons et origo* of the matter. The arrangements made for the Wells-Johnson fight had been public property for a considerable time before Mr. Meyer and the "Synod of the Second London District of the Wesleyan Methodist Church" made any protest. A short time ago, however, it was prominently announced in the Press that an influential syndicate had paid many thousands of pounds to acquire the cinematograph rights of the match. Now the very mention of the word "cinematograph" to a certain type of parson has the same effect on him as a red rag has on a bull. For a long time past the goody-goodies have been conducting a campaign against Sunday cinematograph performances. They complain that a large number of the members of their churches are attracted by them, and that the ministers have to preach to scanty congregations.

Incidentally, of course, the shillings and sixpences which used to be dropped into the plate are diverted into the coffers of the wicked Sabbath-breakers, who, by the way, after deducting expenses, give the Sunday profits to really deserving and useful institutions.

This is how the matter strikes our tame poet:—

Why Meyer Meddled.

With apologies to Lewis Carroll.

The Bishop and the Free-Church crank
Were walking hand-in-hand;
They wept like anything to see
The Cinemas. Meyer damn'd.
"If these were only cleared away,"
They said, "it *would* be grand."

"If we can't close these Sunday shows
And White and Black fight here—
Do you suppose our empty rows
Will buy us ginger-beer?"
"I doubt it," said the jady *Meyer*,
And shed a bitter tear.

A Prurient Puritan.

But this Mr. Meyer is a very unsavoury type of puritan. He has issued a tract addressed to "A Boy of 12 to 14." I have a copy of this effusion before me. It is filthy and disgusting reading, incapable of any detailed quotation within the limits of decency. No wonder he was opposed to the Fight! But there are passages which may usefully be hinted at. First, listen to this precious piece of self-righteousness and unctuous cant:—

> At my schools—two private and one a big public school—I always had lots of friends and I am glad that none of them ever talked to me of impure or dirty things *which I should have been ashamed to listen to.* There was one boy who wanted to be my chum, but once, when we two were alone together, he . . . . and behaved indecently, *and I turned away from him.*

My congratulations to that dirty boy on losing such a "chum." Yet, without the excuse of the temptation which is the lot of most boys, the morbid man makes this confession:—

> As a boy, this was my trouble. No one ever told me what I am telling you . . . and so I . . . (here follow details of unnatural practices). Whenever I think about it, it makes me sorry that I did not grow up to be as strong and tall as I might have done, my chest would have been broader, my muscles stronger, and *my mind more vigorous* than they are now.

Again, I say, no wonder he wished to stop the Fight! And then the tract dilates, in all the filthiest detail, under the guise of warning to boys "of 12 to 14," upon the vital functions and their abuse. It is full of scientific fallacy in its physiological "facts," and altogether it is the dirtiest, nastiest and most revolting leaflet we have come across for many a day.

A Parent's Indignation.

Here is what a father writes:—"What do you think of the enclosed? My boy dropped it from his pocket last night. Can't you get up a Fathers' League to put a stop to the circulation of such filth? I should like to send Jack Johnson down to Mr. Meyer, and leave them together for five minutes, after reading the clean-minded pugilist this loathsome tract."

An Appeal to the Home Office.

In another column I call the attention of Mr. Churchill to this indecent publication, just as Mr. Meyer called attention to the proposed Fight. And I ask him to put the Public Prosecutor in motion, just as he did about the Fight. It will be interesting to see the result. But we shall have to "wait" before we "see."

Meyer's Wail.

Finally, let me quote this:—

> I only wish I had my chance over again, *and I would be a man*, every inch of me. . . . I would show men that following Christ is not "namby-pambyism," but strength, purity, and manhood.

But he never *will* have his chance over again. All he can now do is to avoid the company of young boys, be in the fresh air as much as he can, and although it is too late for him to hope ever to become a healthy, manly fellow—like the nigger Johnson or ex-Bombardier Wells—there is no reason why, with care, he should not live long enough to see a white man yet regain the Boxing Championship of the World.

THE AKBAR AND PRUDENTIAL SCANDALS.

ACTIVE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Mr. Ronald Adam, the ex-deputy superintendent of the "Akbar" Reformatory, upon whose information was based much of our recent exposure of the horrors perpetrated at that institution, is organising an active campaign (under the auspices of the John Bull League) throughout the country, with the object of directing attention to the present unsatisfactory state of the law in regard to the management of reformatories.

A circular which has just been issued to the Trades Councils throughout the country contains an eloquent plea that they should "use their power and influence to obtain protection for poor children sent into the reformatories of this country," pointing out that the recent horrible cruelties admitted in the Government Report of February last included flogging the boys unmercifully (as Dr. Paton's Report proved, 27 boys out of 84 examined were permanently marked), drenching them with buckets of cold water in winter time, keeping them standing through the night under conditions sufficient to test the physical endurance of the hardiest, and muffling and gagging them when being flogged.

Mr. W. E. Mashford, a late Superintendent of the Prudential, is also actively engaged, under the auspices of the League, in exposing the frauds and irregularities connected with the Industrial branch of the Prudential Company's business.

Huge crowds listen to our two representatives, and the greatest indignation is aroused by their disclosures.

The following are the places and dates of this month's meetings:—5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, Darlington; 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th, Middlesbrough and district; 16th, 17th and 18th, York; 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th, Hull (Paragon Square).

BRAVO, ALDERMAN!

A J.P. ON THE ABUSE OF THE LUNACY LAWS.

We congratulate Alderman Anglin, of Marylebone, upon speaking out like a man in protest against the abominable system of sending sane men to asylums without proper authority or inquiry. At a recent meeting of the Board of Guardians he directed attention to a case in which he was called upon, as a Justice of the Peace, to certify a man as a lunatic.

It was the old tale. The man had been sent to the infirmary and placed in the observation ward. The Alderman was asked to sign an order for his removal to the asylum on the ground of insanity; "but," to quote the Alderman's words, "there was not the least sign of insanity about him. As a matter of fact he was as intelligent and sane as I am."

The Alderman went on to tell his brother Guardians some home truths, and this is what he said, among other things:—

> It was, he thought, high time steps were taken to prevent such disgraceful things occurring. At the same time there was in the observation ward a young woman about whose sanity also doubts had been expressed, but speaking to her also, I found that she was perfectly sane.

Here are two cases, vouched for by an Alderman, in which, but for his intelligent action, the persons concerned, both as sane as he, would have been sent to an asylum. And if that can happen in a single week in one parish, one may get some idea of the number of sane people put away in asylums every week of the year. It is perfectly monstrous, and we can only hope that before long Parliament will direct its attention to this most serious matter, and see to it that the abominable Act under which such incarcerations are rendered not only possible, but easy, is amended.

We would direct attention to a very ingenious and interesting course of lessons by correspondence in elocution, which has been devised by the Correspondence College of Elocution, 7, East India Avenue. We have looked carefully into the system, a course of which, consisting of 15 lessons, may be taken for two guineas, and we recommend all readers desirous of improving their elocutionary powers to give it a trial.

CANT IN EXCELSIS.

THE LATE CHAIRMAN OF THE LAW GUARANTEE SOCIETY PREACHES A SERMON ON CHARITY AND LOVE.

We have been reading the speech of Mr. E. F. Turner as delivered at the Solicitors' Benevolent Association and now published in pamphlet form by that organisation. It is a speech of a kind seldom heard at gatherings of lawyers—a moving, sympathetic, human-brotherhood kind of speech. It is so eloquent that we cannot refrain from quoting it. We should explain that the occasion was the 51st Anniversary Festival of the Association, and the speech itself was an appeal for funds to aid its objects. Mr. Turner refers to those members of his profession who in the battle of life have fallen by the roadside and need the aid of their more fortunate competitors, who "are whole and need no physician," as Mr. Turner reminded his audience. Then he went on to speak of those who starting in life with chances as fair and hopes as high as others—lacking neither industry, nor character, nor ability—from one cause or another, have failed in their life purpose; and this is how he refers to them:—

> Can we go on our way forgetting them? Is it for us to pass by on the other side? Dare we take refuge behind the cold-blooded formula that Charity begins at home, and not finish it by saying also that in God's merciful name it must not and shall not end there? . . . And surely as we pass in review the privileged opportunities we have had of aiding this cause we shall be glad if we can recall that we have not let them go by us, but have in our day and generation, and according to our means, stretched out a helping hand, not grudgingly nor of necessity, but in loving sympathy to those for whom I am now offering thanks. . . . If we have done that unto the least—no, not the least, but only the poorest—of these our brethren, I dare say that in our memories of the past—
>
> Ah! sweeter far than music to the ear
> Will sound for us the voices we shall hear,
> Telling of need relieved, tears wiped away,
> And mercy stealing in like break of day.

It is all very beautiful, including the quotation from George Eliot, but somehow Mr. Turner seems hardly the man to father this sort of language. For is not he the late Chairman of the Law Guarantee Society, the man who in March, 1909, speaking as Chairman of that Society declared in response to anxious enquiries that there was to be no call upon the shares, yet, notwithstanding, with his co-directors called up £800,000 within two months? Is not this the man whose gross neglect, or incompetence helped to make it possible for things to be done by the Society which brought it down, and were bound to bring it down, with a crash, and in bringing it down brought misery and ruin to many struggling members of the profession, about whom he spoke so movingly in his speech?

Verily, charity *does* begin at home!

BUILDING SOCIETIES AND WITHDRAWALS.

A LONG WAIT.

The building societies scattered over this country have no doubt done a great deal of good in the way of encouraging thrift and facilitating house purchase, but their weak point is that members do not know when they can get out moneys they have paid in.

We have before us a letter from a correspondent, who complains that he has been a member of the First Weymouth and District Benefit Thrift Society ever since he was a child, and continued the deposits until the sum reached £52. In December, 1908, he gave notice that he wished to withdraw his deposits. The secretary informed him that this would take some time. After waiting two years and a half he asked when he might expect the return of his money, and this is the answer:—

> In reply to yours *re* withdrawal of subscriptions, it takes quite four years to repay the subscriptions from the date of notice of withdrawal. I notice you gave notice on January 1st, 1909.

Well, we suppose our correspondent must wait the four years, but it seems a long time for a solvent society to take to return a deposit.

For "Northern Terrors" Prospectus, see pages 502 and 503.

A PRUDENTIAL PLOT FRUSTRATED.

THE COMPANY CHECKMATED—CHALLENGE TO COME INTO COURT AS PLAINTIFFS.

A few days ago it was announced in all the papers that as we had not set down a certain action for trial, the Prudential Company had themselves done so, and that the case would probably be heard next term. The inference which the public would naturally draw from this statement—and the inference which we do not hesitate to say it was intended that the public should draw—was that the Prudential directors were eager to expedite the trial of an action with a view to vindicating the Company against the grave charges which we had formulated, and are still preferring, against it. Those charges comprised allegations of fraud and irregularity in connection with the Industrial branch of the Prudential's business, and they are still being widely circulated throughout the country by means of a printed summary of our articles, in pamphlet form, and of a vigorous open-air campaign under the auspices of the John Bull League. Various actions have also been brought by policy-holders against the Company, at our instigation, some of which are still pending, and others of which the Company are settling by the return of the whole or a portion of the premiums which they have improperly received. *There is no desire on the part of the directors to expedite the hearing of these cases!*

THE TRICK EXPOSED.

Now what was the action which the Prudential was anxious to have heard? Simply one in which our Editor claimed damages for libel in respect of an offensive reference to this journal, contained in a circular to agents issued by the Prudential directors last April. Here are the passages complained of:—

> The unfair criticism of the work of the Company to which Mr. Bottomley has lent the columns of JOHN BULL has probably caused some trouble and annoyance to many members of our staff. The reputation of a Company whose contracts inoicate the approval and support of more than one third of the population of the United Kingdom and Ireland, will not be seriously affected by criticism in the columns of a journal which has become notorious for its attacks on individuals and institutions well established in the public esteem, but a section of the public, with little experience in estimating the worthlessness of statements drawn largely from prejudiced or tainted sources, is apt to invest them with an authority which is wholly undeserved.

In passing, we may remark that the principal of the "prejudiced and tainted sources" from which we drew our facts consisted of official records of verdicts of fraud and misrepresentation against the Prudential or its representatives.

Now, rightly or wrongly, Mr. Bottomley construed these statements as an impeachment of the honesty and *bona-fides* of not only our criticism of the Prudential Company, but of the general policy and character of this journal. He accordingly issued a writ for libel, and here is the interpretation, taken from the Statement of Claim, which he placed upon the words:—

> The said words meant and were intended and were understood to mean that the Plaintiff was and is a corrupt, incompetent, and reckless journalist, and had unfairly and untruthtully attacked the Defendant Company in the said paper, JOHN BULL, from corrupt and dishonest motives, and was notorious for improper attacks upon respectable institutions and persons.

Did the Company adopt our interpretation of their circular? Did they venture to say that our criticisms were corrupt? Did they dare to say that since the establishment of this journal, down to the present day, it had ever been party to a dishonest transaction? No. They specifically traversed our allegation. But that is not all. *They set up the plea of "Privilege."* Listen to this:—

> Alternatively [that *i.e.*, after pleading that the words were true in their "ordinary" meaning, which they contended was not the meaning we had attached to them, and that they were "fair comment on matters of public interest"] the defendants say that the said words were published by the defendants *bona-fide* and without malice *upon a privileged occasion.*

And then they give particulars of the facts they rely on to establish "privilege."

> On the dates before mentioned the Plaintiff had made or permitted the said attacks on the Defendant Company and on the policy, management and officials thereof. The Defendants therefore in order to protect their interests *and in order to reassure the agents and staff of the defendant Company* published the circular letter complained of to their superintendents, agents and officials throughout the country.

Of course, a plea of "Privilege," if sustained (*and the matter is one for the decision of the Judge and not the jury*) is fatal to any action for libel; and in the opinion of Mr. Bottomley and his solicitors it was exceedingly probable that in the special circumstances of this case the Judge would decide the point in favour of the Company. Hence Mr. Bottomley required a little time to look up the authorities on the subject. By the Rules of Procedure, he was not bound to set the action down for trial till the end of the Long Vacation, and as he was very busily occupied with other litigation during the last few weeks of July—the Statement of Defence was delivered on the fourth of that month—he allowed the matter to stand over.

But this did not suit the Prudential. They saw a chance of snapping a verdict upon a technical point, or, in any event upon a limited issue, which in no way embraced the truth of our charges against them—*not one of which had been gone into in that action*—and so they made a brave show of being anxious to come into Court! A victory over JOHN BULL, however gained and upon whatever issue, would be dust in the eyes of the policy holders, and of that "section of the public with little experience in estimating the worthlessness" of such a verdict.

But we were not to be trapped. We decided to drop the action and to challenge the Directors to come into Court themselves and vindicate the Prudential Company against the unanswered charges we have formulated, and shall continue to formulate, against them. Accordingly, our solicitors have written the following letter to the Prudential Company's solicitor:—

3, Howard Street, Strand, W.C.

BOTTOMLEY *v.* THE PRUDENTIAL.

DEAR SIR,—In view of the fact that your clients do not admit the interpretation placed by Mr. Bottomley upon the circular which is the subject of this action, and further as they raise the plea of privilege, we are instructed to serve you with Notice of Discontinuance.

We are further instructed to accept service of any process your clients may be advised to institute in respect of the very serious charges against them contained in the articles which have appeared from time to time in JOHN BULL, and are now being extensively circulated by our client in pamphlet form.—Yours faithfully,

LLOYD, RICHARDSON & Co.

OUR "PRUDENTIAL" EXPOSURES.

Our Articles have been reprinted and are now obtainable in a handy pamphlet form at ONE PENNY.

POST FREE, 1½d.

See also notice on page 483.

"THAMES CHRISTIAN AND TEMPERANCE MISSION."

MORE CHARITY-MONGERING.

The following advertisement appeared in the Press:—

Lady required, wages 10s. weekly (no commission), as collector for a London mission, and to work near her own neighbourhood.—Write "Mission," Box ——

Those who answered this advertisement, and who were favoured with a reply, received a memorandum, requesting them to call for further particulars, and headed:

Thames Christian and Temperance Mission,
Mission Vessel, *St. Paul.*
Staff Office:
2, Princeton Street, Red Lion Street, W.C.
(Close to Chancery Lane).
Local offices in the suburbs.
Head office—Chatham.

All correspondence on this subject to be addressed to the Staff Manager, Mr. Alroy, Thames Christian and Temperance Mission, 2, Princeton Street, W.C.

Once the District Visitor is appointed, she is equipped with a collection box, and a number of tickets headed:—

THAMES CHRISTIAN AND TEMPERANCE MISSION.

FRESH AIR FUND AND FREE MEALS FOR POOR ORPHANS (Boys).

SUBSCRIBER'S TRANSFERABLE TICKET.
To the Captain of the *St. Paul.*

ADMIT BEARER on board the *St. Paul* for a day on the river, with free meals. 1s. *Subscription Ticket.* See back.
Available until October, 1911.

Then, after spaces for names and addresses of subscriber and orphan beneficiary, and signature of mission officer receiving the shilling, comes:—

Subscribers may present these tickets to whomsoever they desire to benefit by a day on the river, with free meals, on board the Mission vessel *St. Paul.* Parties made up weekly. For dates apply to the Secretary of the Mission. Offices, Bedford Row Chambers, Holborn, W.C. President, J. H. L. Splimar, Esq.

The Mission's "Wages Voucher" states:—

Net balance for the Mission to go towards defraying expenses in connection with the Mission vessel *St. Paul* and its upkeep. Also wages and provisions for the captain and crew, harbour dues, etc., and fresh air parties with free meals, and other objects of the Mission; also staff and supervision expenses, office rent, printing, stationery, stamps, advertising, and miscellaneous expenses in connection with the foregoing Mission work.

A "ROSE" BY ANOTHER NAME.

On the Mission's memorandum paper it will be noted that the address is given as 2, Princeton Street, W.C.—while on the shilling card the address is given as Bedford Row Chambers, Holborn. They are the same premises.

BEARDING THE LION IN HIS DEN.

After climbing up four flights of stairs, the Mission offices are found to consist of two small rooms. In one of these we discovered Mr. Alroy, and from him we endeavoured to obtain a few particulars, such as:—

Names of the Mission's Committee.
The address of Mr. Splimar, the President.
The address of the Head Office at Chatham.
A few details with reference to the Mission vessel.

So simple—yet Mr. Alroy angrily refused the information. We drew our own conclusions. They are:—

The Thames Christian and Temperance Mission is a "one man show," run by Alroy. We have searched Chatham from one end to the other, and have failed to find the "Head Office." Nor can we trace on the Thames the Mission Vessel, *St. Paul*, while the Committee mentioned in the memorandum is also undiscoverable. In short, the whole thing is charity-mongering of the worst type, and the sooner Alroy drops it and works for his living, the better. He has close upon a hundred collectors out, and we are credibly informed that the average takings of each are 30s. a week. Out of this amount 10s. is paid in wages—leaving Mr. Alroy £1 to play with.

It is a notorious scandal that the law allows collections of this sort to be made in the streets. If some poor old woman endeavours to sell a few laces without a hawker's licence in order to get a living, she is promptly arrested; yet professional "philanthropists" of the type of Alroy may cadge with impunity.

By the way, when was the last balance-sheet issued?

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CLXII.

AN OLD HORSE-'BUS CONDUCTOR'S PLIGHT.

Thomas Leech was employed as a conductor on a horse 'bus for nearly 40 years by the London General Omnibus Company. He is now 67 years of age, honest, sober and respectable. He lost his position because his 'bus was taken off owing to the coming of the motors, and he has found it impossible to get anything like steady work since. He was the first conductor who stood behind an omnibus crossing Holborn Viaduct, and is the oldest conductor in the Westminster district. He would be very grateful if any reader could help him to a position as caretaker, or to any kind of work—his wife could do light work if required. Is there anyone of our readers who will help him in the way suggested?

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named;

CLVII.—"Canadian Soldier," one dollar.

CLX.—Blanche Coxon, 20s.; "Anti-Socialist," 2s. 6d.; "Slip End," 2s. 6d.; C. W. J. B., 20s.; "Pig and Wiggie," 2s.; H. W. S., 1s.; W. D., 1s.; "Mrs. G.," 4s.; "A Neighbour," 5s.

CLXI.—"Hull Well-wisher," 2s. 6d.; "Eric," 5s.; "Lady Godiva," 6d.; J. I. J., 2s.; "Honest Freemason," 5s.; "David" £2; W. D.

THE LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

A WORD WITH MR. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN.

We have before us a copy of the prospectus which Mr. Oscar Hammerstein is sending out, and we should like to ask him a question or two upon it. We note, first, that Mr. Hammerstein claims to have had a "long career as Director of Grand Opera." It would be interesting to know how he supports this statement. That he has had a long connection with light opera and music halls, we know, but Grand Opera? Is not it true that his only connection with Grand Opera prior to his venture in Kingsway was in New York and Philadelphia—in New York, where he ran the Manhattan Opera House, and in Philadelphia, where he built an opera house? We notice that he takes credit also for "abstinence from connecting art with commercialism," but when we recollect that the Metropolitan Opera House gave him a million dollars to end his opposition, and upon his undertaking not to be concerned in Grand Opera in America for ten years, we are not greatly impressed with this suggestion of altruistic motives.

THE ARTISTES.

The prospectus gives a repertoire of thirty-two operas, and Mr. Hammerstein states that his "singers are artistes, great artistes, belonging to the front rank of their noble profession." Is that true? The prospectus gives us a list of these artistes, and we can discover only two names that are at all known in London.

THE CHORUS.

Referring to the chorus, Mr. Hammerstein says that "English voices will be predominant." That is all right so far as it goes, but we venture to say that Mr. Hammerstein is not in a position to produce the operas he promises, because the chorus will not be able to "get up" more than half of them. There is not time. At the end of last week they had mastered the words and music of three of the thirty-two, and those only in a very perfunctory way.

THE TICKETS.

Mr. Hammerstein is making a strong effort to dispose of subscription tickets for the entire season of one hundred performances, but he gives no guarantee that the hundred performances will take place. And how is it possible for him to get the scenery and costumes for the thirty-two operas in his répertoire in the time at his disposal? As a matter of fact, Mr. Hammerstein hopes to repeat in London his coup of New York. As he sold to the Metropolitan company the Manhattan House for a million dollars, so he hopes to dispose to the Covent Garden people of the house in Kingsway. If he does so, it is his intention to go over to Paris and build a house there with the object of repeating the New York and London transactions. If he fails with the Covent Garden management—and we shall be greatly surprised if he succeeds—then, assuming that the Grand Opera venture is not a success, he will doubtless turn the place into a music hall.

"MORE REFORMATORY HORRORS."—II.

THE *MOUNT EDGCUMBE* TRAINING SHIP—BOYCOTT BY SHIPPING FIRMS.

In dealing with this matter in our issue of September 16th, we stated that we would allow time for a satisfactory assurance from the Home Office that a full and impartial enquiry should immediately be held, at which we might be represented, before publishing further particulars.

Up to the time of going to press that assurance has not reached us. It is true that Mr. Melville, of the Home Office, has paid a visit to Devonport with reference to our disclosures, but that is not our demand. In the circumstances, we have no alternative but to return to the subject.

Lest there should be any doubt as to our charges, we recapitulate them.

> We charge the management of the Ship with gross neglect of duty—the officers are overworked and underpaid. There is no proper supervision of the lads, and, in consequence, criminal practices, unmentionable in their character, have taken place on an enormous scale. The management, in at least one case, have failed to do their duty in regard to one of the offenders.

When the authorities send youthful offenders to an industrial training ship, they presumably go there for the purpose of reform. In other words, they are sent there with the object of being made good boys and manly men.

Let us see how this is done on board the *Mount Edgcumbe*.

Before writing our first article we paid a visit to the ship, and were courteously conducted over the different decks by the First Officer. Incidentally, it should be mentioned that we did not disclose our identity.

When we boarded the ship the boys had just cleared up after dinner, and it was playtime. Some, however, who were on the "black list," were hard at work scrubbing decks; a fit and proper punishment, no doubt. What we did not like to see, however, was a burly officer standing over them with a cane about one inch in diameter under his arm. We must not suggest that he ever uses the cane, because we did not see him do so. Possibly he carried it about with him for fear the boys should attack him! After we had inspected the "black listers"—we noticed that a great many of them looked more fit for hospital than punishment—we had a look at the other boys. Here again the difference in physique was most marked. They were playing a sort of "hare and hounds" game. The "hare" in every case was a puny boy. After inspecting the lads on the upper deck, the First Officer conducted us below; and here we saw the real weaklings of the ship. They were resting. That is to say, they were lying down on the bare deck. Some were sleeping, others were gazing at the deck above them; it was a blank gaze, however, for the set expression on their little faces told us that they were thinking. We wondered what they were thinking about, but hadn't the heart to ask any of them. Suddenly the First Officer called out "Trumpeter, sound the fall in!" The trumpet rang out, and all the boys fell in, and were then told off to their different duties—each batch under an officer. Some went to school, some to signalling, others to band practice, and so on. One squad went to the swimming class. We watched them strip, and it was here that the difference of physique was again noticeable. The weak boys were placed with the strong. So all through the ship. There was absolutely no classification.

It is within our knowledge that, while some of the boys on the ship are there for serious crimes, the vast majority are there for minor offences. Yet they are all herded together.

Punishments.

From what we know of reformatory schools, training ships, or whatever other name they sail under, it must be admitted that they are in fact prisons: prisons with this difference—they are privately owned and not conducted on scientific principles. In State-owned gaols a prisoner may not be flogged except by the consent of a visiting justice. Not so, however, in a privately owned establishment. Let us see how it works out in the *Mount Edgcumbe*. We quote from the sworn declaration of an ex-officer:—

> One of the boys was charged with ———. The Captain mustered all the boys, formed them up in a ring, took up a big cane, and flogged the lad round and round the ring, giving him more than a dozen stripes. Then the Captain sent for some black paint, and a brush. He then painted on the boy's jacket "Log." The lad had to go about his work for a week wearing this jacket.

We pass no further comment upon this form of punishment than to suggest to the Committee that it is absolutely illegal, and that a Captain who can so far lose his dignity as to carry out with his own hands such a barbarous chastisement is not a fit and proper person to be in charge of youthful offenders.

We quote again from sworn testimony:—

> There are a number of boys on board who are over 16 years of age. The Captain made it a practice of keeping boys who were suffering from chilblains, colds, etc., on the lower deck. When their hammocks were hung up, these boys had their tea below in the semi-darkness. There was no supervision. I well remember the Captain flogging boy Walbridge (14). The last slash he gave him was across the neck. It left a deep mark.

To give one more case—the details of many are in our possession—again quoting from the sworn testmony of yet another ex-officer, who repeatedly brought to the notice of the Captain certain filthy and criminal habits of the boys, with the view of obtaining an enquiry by the Committee of the ship:—

> A boy named ——— was charged with stealing a cake, value 2d. He was ordered 12 cuts with the cane. This cane is an instrument 4 ft. long and ¾ of an inch in diameter. It is laid round at intervals with waxend. This boy was taken on the lower deck, and first one officer gave 4 cuts, and then another officer gave 4 cuts. Then the Captain took the cane and administered 5 cuts—making 13 in all, one over the dose. This cane is now in possession of the Home Office. It was taken away from the ship as a result of John Bull's enquiries.

Mount Edgcumbe Boys Not Wanted.

From June 27th to June 30th, 1911, a conference of the managers and superintendents of reformatory and industrial schools was held at Edinburgh, and at that conference Captain H. W. Harkcom, Captain of the *Mount Edgcumbe*, complained that he could not get any of his boys into the mercantile marine or any class of sailing vessel. Is that to be wondered at when we bear in mind the atrocities we have mentioned? He said:—

> My complaint is that I cannot get boys away to sea, no matter how highly trained they are. I have unfortunately to send to their homes, no matter what those homes may be like, a number of very highly trained boys, *simply because the Shipping Companies will not take them.*
>
> I have myself gone round to various ports of the country, and have been met with opposition on the part of a number of shipowners. For the last twelve or eighteen months we have had no shipping agent at all, because it has been quite useless to have one. We had a man in Liverpool nine months, *but he did not ship a single boy.*
>
> Together with our Hon. Secretary, I went to Liverpool, and we approached a number of large shipowners on the subject. One shipowner, when I appealed to him to take some of my boys, said plainly, *he did not want them, he preferred Asiatics; he preferred Chinamen.*

Facts are stubborn things, and the moral atmosphere in which *Mount Edgcumbe* boys live must have made itself felt even as far as Liverpool.

Do other captains find it difficult to place their boys? Do they have to dispense with the services of their agents or pay personal visits to shipowners and cringe and scrape?

On the contrary, they cannot find sufficient boys.

At the same conference the captain of another institution said, and we quote verbatim:—

> I find here the difficulty to-day is not in the means of disposal of boys to sea, *but to check the demand for them so as to allow time for suitable training*, and I feel sure that most schools who take up nautical training seriously and efficiently and keep in constant touch with the senior officers of the ship in which their boys are placed will find this to be the case.

There is no room for the *Mount Edgcumbe* type of boy, and yet other captains, who carry out their work conscientiously and keep their lads in a healthy atmosphere, find the demand greater than the supply.

Does not this sufficiently bear out our charges that there is something radically wrong with the ship?

Now then, Mr. Churchill!

LAW FOR THE MILLION.

HIRE PURCHASE SYSTEM.

The number of people who can afford to purchase and pay cash for expensive articles is limited; but on the other hand, there are a great many who require immediate delivery of such articles, and although unable to pay the price down, can pay a small proportion on account, and the balance by weekly, monthly or quarterly instalments over an agreed period. Business is now transacted on such lines in almost every trade, and in particular the furnishing trade. These transactions are carried out by means of hire purchase agreements, and although the terms and conditions of a hire purchase agreement are well understood by the tradesmen, they are not always thoroughly appreciated by the purchasers.

There is a very important distinction between acquiring goods on credit and acquiring them on the hire purchase system: in the former case the ownership immediately passes from the seller to the purchaser, and should the purchaser fail to pay for them, the seller's only remedy is to sue for the price—whereas in the latter case the ownership of the goods does not pass from the seller until the last instalment has been paid.

The effect of a hire purchase agreement is that the tradesman lets the goods at an agreed rent with an option to purchase, and invariably in the agreement the parties are described as the "owner" and the "hirer" respectively.

Should the hirer fail to keep up the instalments, the owner can re-take possession of the goods, and retain the money which has been paid; it is therefore of the utmost importance that the hirer should pay the instalments on the dates they are due, otherwise the owner may take advantage of his powers under the agreement and re-take the goods and thus deprive the hirer of the benefit of the instalments he has paid. Goods which are held under a hire purchase agreement cannot be seized by an execution creditor, but they can be seized by the landlord for arrears of rent, and it is therefore usually provided in the agreement that the hirer shall produce to the owner on demand the receipts for the rent, and should he fail to do so, the owner is to be at liberty to re-take possession of the goods.

As a general rule, fixtures attached to premises, even subsequent to a mortgage thereof, become part of the premises; therefore engines or machinery hired under a hire purchase agreement and affixed to the freehold by bolts and screws pass to the mortgagee of the freehold, who has no notice of such agreement, notwithstanding that the name of the original owner, as owner, is affixed to such engine or machinery. It is, therefore, advisable to stipulate when engines or machinery are hired that they shall not, during the hiring, be affixed to the freehold if they are capable of being worked without being so affixed, and if they are not capable of being worked without being so affixed, that the hirer shall not, during the hiring, execute any mortgage on his premises without giving a previous notice in writing to the owner of his intention so to do.

LEGAL ANSWERS.

COMPANY LAW.—HOVE.—A general meeting of every limited company must be held once at the least in every calendar year, and not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding general meeting. If not so held, the company and every director, manager, secretary, and other officer of the company who is knowingly a party to the default, will be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.

REGISTRATION OF MONEY-LENDERS.—F. C. (Upper Richmond).—If [illegible] carries on the business of a money-lender he must register. [illegible] carrying on a business not having for its primary object the lending [illegible] but in the course of which and for the purpose w[illegible] need not register.

INTESTATE SUCCESSION.—TAFFY.—If a [illegible] husband is entitled to all her personal [illegible] holds, etc.—but her real property [illegible] nearest paternal ancestor [illegible]

MARRIAGE.—H[illegible] is required [illegible] [illegible] marriage [illegible] registrar 9s. 7d. [illegible] music forms a sub- [illegible] required. We are of opinion [illegible] a gramophone on his premises, [illegible] point yet.

[illegible] D. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—In the absence of [illegible], the agent would only be entitled to his com- [illegible] of the purchase.

FIANCÉ.—PIP (Stoke Newington).—As your fiancé has died, you [illegible] over the presents you gave her—they are her absolute property and [illegible] her next-of-kin. Any property you have of hers could be recovered from you.

DIVORCE.—T. (King's Cross).—As you have obtained a judicial separation you are precluded from obtaining a divorce, but we hope to see the law amended shortly to meet such cases as yours.

RATES.—A WELL WISHER.—You must pay the rates, but if under your agreement the landlord is liable, you can deduct the amount from the rent.

AUSTRALIAN INSURANCE METHODS.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

We have in more than one case directed attention to the wide discrepancies between promise and performance, as illustrated by the experiences of British policy holders in American life offices. But these discrepancies are not confined to American offices. They seem to be as wide, or wider, in the case of leading Australian insurance companies.

A Cardiff reader of JOHN BULL sends us the correspondence he has had with the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society, London branch. He has been insured with the company for twenty years. The tontine period expired on September 1st. Now, when the proposal was made to our correspondent it was on the distinct understanding that he would at the end of the tontine period be entitled to the option of:—(1) £544 in cash; (2) retaining the policy and a cash payment of £204; (3) a paid up policy for £665; (4) retention of policy and annuity of £7 5s.; (5) Life annuity of £28 5s. At maturity he chose number one, and he was then informed by the office that instead of receiving £544 in cash he would get only £157 15s.

Naturally, our correspondent protested and invited explanation. The manager of the society gave him two explanations of the reasons for the difference between promise and performance:—(1) That more than twenty years ago the estimates upon which our correspondent relies were "absolutely withdrawn." (2) That any such figures given twenty years in advance were not (and could not be) anything more than an "estimate" of results which it was hoped would be achieved. With regard to the first answer, it is sufficient to say that the agent through whom the policy was effected has stated that the estimate referred to was not withdrawn when the policy was taken out, and that he was authorised to make it to our correspondent. With regard to the second plea, we can only say it is a pity that the company does not make it as clear when it is soliciting business that the estimates are purely speculative and are sometimes twice the amount of the sum available upon the maturity of the policy. Our correspondent suggested that the Company should reconsider its offer, but in reply the Manager said that it is not possible to augment the options that have been disclosed by the directors and to offer special treatment to any protesting member. We can understand our correspondent's annoyance, and assuming he can prove the facts relating to the proposal, he should have a good case against the company.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

HEARD WITH RESIGNATION.

(*Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., Secretary of the Labour Party, has intimated that he has decided to resign that post.*)

When Ramsay Macdonald h[illegible] mind
To resign, he was [illegible]
Might upset h[illegible] vs,
But [illegible] hear it.

[illegible] *son, who have*
[illegible] *1721, are removing*
[illegible] nearly, in one spot,
[illegible] styles quite hard to be forgetting;
[illegible] changes, and it is the lot
[illegible] c'en Crown jewels to seek a diff'rent setting.

RICARDO.

IN connection with the King's African collection at the Zoo, some people have wondered what His Majesty would do with a zoological collection, such as the one now on view at the Gardens in Regent's Park, were there not a place of that kind to accommodate them. Of course no such series of animals, comprising as it does lions, leopards, zebras, birds, and reptiles of all sorts, would have ever been brought together and offered to the King had it not been contemplated to give his subjects in England an opportunity of viewing them. As the collection is shortly to be broken up, the Society have thought it well to invite a larger public to its inspection, and with the King's approval, have announced that for a week commencing October 5th, the price of admission will be reduced to 6d.

BILLS THAT OUGHT TO BE PASSED.

By W. M.

VI.—THE BETTING [REGULATION OF] BILL.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS it is universally recognised and generally admitted that the gambling instinct is an ineradicable attribute of human nature; and

WHEREAS, in view of the utter futility of attempting by means of repressive legislation to abolish betting, the next best thing is to regulate its practice in the interest, and for the protection, of those persons who bet; and

WHEREAS IT IS DESIRABLE TO OPEN UP FRESH SOURCES OF REVENUE without increasing the burden upor the poor, upon whom all forms of indirect taxation ultimately fall,

THE BILL.

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commens in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1.—From and after the First Day of January, 1912, any bookmaker who shall accept a bet, not being licensed in accordance with Sec. a, Clause 3, of this Act, shall be liable to a fine of £20, or in default three months' imprisonment without hard labour, for the first offence; a fine of £50, or in default six months imprisonment without hard labour, for the second offence; and for the third and every subsequent offence twelve months' hard labour, without the option of a fine.

2.—Any person who shall make a bet with any bookmaker not licensed in accordance with Sec. a, Clause 3, of this Act, shall be liable to a fine of thirty shillings, or in default seven days' imprisonment without hard labour, for the first offence; a fine of forty shillings, or in default fourteen days' imprisonment without hard labour, for the second offence; and for the third and every subsequent offence, one month's imprisonment with hard labour, without the option of a fine.

3.—[a] A bookmaker's licence shall be granted to any person upon application to the Head Constable of the district in which the said person may live, upon payment of £5 (the said licence to be renewed annually upon payment of the like sum) provided always that the said person be

1.—No less than twenty-one years of age;
2.—Not an undischarged bankrupt;
3.—Of sound mind;
4.—Free from any conviction for any criminal offence.

[b] No bookmaker shall accept a bet without handing or forwarding to the backer a ticket upon which shall be plainly printed the bookmaker's portrait, full name and address, and a distinctive number. Furthermore, to every betting ticket shall be attached a revenue stamp of value according to the amount of the bet, as follows:—

When the amount of the bet does not exceed	£1						1d.
Exceeds	£1	and does not exceed			£2	..	3d.
,,	£2	,,	,,	,,	£3	..	4d.
,,	£3	,,	,,	,,	£5	..	6d.
,,	£5	,,	,,	,,	£10	..	1s. 6d.
,,	£10	,,	,,	,,	£20	..	4s. 0d.
,,	£20	,,	,,	,,	£50	..	10s. 0d.
,,	£50	,,	,,	,,	£100	..	£1 10s.
,,	£100	,,	,,	,,	£500	..	£7 10s.
,,	£500	,,	,,	,,	£1,000	..	£20
,,	£1,000	,,	,,	,,	£10,000	..	£100

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

ANOTHER GEM FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

Could you inform me who is the author of "The Yahoo," published in 1830? I have tried various libraries, including the National Library, Mudie's, and *The Times* Book Club, but without success. I think the late G. J. Holyoake knew who the author was, as out of a batch of questions, including the above, that a Mr. Ralph Thomas once addressed to him, he totally ignored it.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE ii. OF COVER.

A MODEL PROSPECTUS.

"No promotion money; no vendors' shares; company's capital to be intact, and subscribers to be also creditors"—such is the heading to the prospectus of the New Northern Territory Explorers, Limited, now in course of issue. We are not surprised that there is a demand for the Profit Sharing Bonds by means of which the ingenious financial scheme of the company is being carried out, nor does it surprise us to hear that several thousand written applications for copies of the prospectus were received before its circulation. We have no hesitation in advising our readers to take up the Bonds—which we have reason to believe are likely to see a big premium before long. An abridged copy of the prospectus will be found on pages 502 and 503.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

October 5th.—T. P. O'Connor.

The garrulous, genial journalist, who
Is known to his friends as "Tay Pay,"
We wish all the happiness that is his due,
And a little bit over, to-day.

For tearing a second-hand passion to shreds
His equal was never yet seen;
His prose, liked mixed liquors, gets into our heads
Till we pause to think what he can mean.

Still, here's luck to Liverpool's Irish M.P.—
For Scotland Division he sits;
And though it's a roughish constituency
It's a hole that he very well fits.

£500 FOR A COPY OF "JOHN BULL."

UNIQUE OFFER FOR THE MILLIONTH COPY OF "JOHN BULL" SOLD IN ONE WEEK.

The regular weekly circulation of JOHN BULL is gradually approaching the million copies, and in this connection we now make the following unique offer:—

We will pay the sum of £500 for the first millionth copy actually sold. This is no lottery. We wish to obtain the copy, frame it, and preserve it, as marking an absolute record in the case of a British Weekly Periodical.

Such copy will bear upon it a distinctive number (not necessarily 1,000,000)—made automatically by the printing machine and unknown to any living soul except the directors of John Bull, Ltd., who guarantee that the copy so numbered will go into circulation through the Trade in the ordinary way.

The millionth copy may be in circulation any week now, and all we ask our readers to do is to carefully preserve their JOHN BULLS and await a further announcement.

Let it be clearly understood, however, that in making this offer we are actuated solely by commercial considerations.

We shall in due course indicate the identifying number

May we impress upon readers in the Colonies and elsewhere to take special care of their papers until after the number of the millionth copy has been announced?

COUPON.—Christmas Present Distribution.

I have assisted to bring the circulation of JOHN BULL up to *One Million Copies* in the following manner:—

Here describe what you have done, shortly as possible.

Name .....

Address .....

7/10/11.

TRUMPS.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

I make it Hearts. After all, the regard of the Beloved is more significant than rubies, more potent than créme de Kirsch, sweeter than honey and the honeymoon. We can do without money, almost without clothes, certainly without evil concupiscence. But if our Lady is angry with us, yea, but a little, we are filled with Egyptian and Cimmerian darknesses. Whereas, when she smiles, when we hear her melodious chuckle, when she condescends to visit our vine, everything is tinged with calcedony, saturated with attar.

Cœur de Lion.

These details, however, belong to the next sermon of Saint James Crow. I want to point out that hearts are only a fashion of speaking. When Cupid possesses the captain, his cardiac organ is unmoved. The thrilling tingles of adoration may perplex his brain, fuddle his appendix, steep him to the lips in treason (as poor old Gladstone indiscreetly said); but—to return to the Psalmist—his heart is fixed, O Lord, his heart is fixed. I am moved to these intemperate remarks before breakfast, at the hour of Power, because I have been reading a dissertation on hearts in my Paris paper.

An Inferior Intestine.

Hearts, it appears, are not susceptible at all. Look at a picture of them in a medical book. They are complicated with aortas (almost aorists and Greek roots), pulmonary arteries, inferior vein caves, and other hideous phlebotomical excrescences. They are not the seats of our emotions, rather gross intestines. When we love the love of our lives we may chaunt "As pants the heart," but, really, some other organ is at work—probably the brain. Like Plato, I am a great believer in cerebral affections. Unduly susceptible people take love-sickness like whooping-cough or spotted fever. They become a nuisance to everybody, including the object of their desires. They wear their heart upon their sleeves. The really devout lover does not bother about hearts, but racks his brain to find avenues to the satisfaction of the beloved. He dances attendance, anticipates whims, pets the Pekinese *et cetera*.

Little Slam in Hearts.

When we say you have a good heart we really mean a clear brain. When foolish French frogs feel queasy, they say they have badness in the heart (*mal au cœur*); if they told the truth they would confess to uneasiness of the stomach. One of them summed up the language of hearts as follows:—When we say "My heart is yours," we mean "I like you very much;" when we complain "You have broken my heart," the interpretation is "You are a disgusting little brute;" when we murmur with Byron, "Give, oh give me back my heart," it would be more to the point if we cried "Get out," for all is over when a heart is returned. The word "hearty" is commonly accepted as indicative of back-slapping, hand-crushing tumult, frenzied exuberance, damnable good-natured friendship. Etymologically, it should connote fatty degeneration. When the Beloved wearies of your monotonous murmurs, you dub her heartless. What a nonsensical word! The real trouble is that you yourself are brainless. The real Bayard is *sans cœur et sans reproche*. But did Bayard know how to love?

The Sordid Suit.

It is very meet and right that diamonds should cede precedence to hearts. But, as a secondary symptom, coin of the realm may not be utterly ignored. Broken hearts may be a consequence of going broke and admitting the brokers. Of course, nice people never mention pelf in the bridal chamber, at what a horrid honeymoon it would be if we had to wonder whether we could afford lobsters and other luxuries for supper, if we had to study our pass-book before strolling down the rue de la Paix, if sordid subjects soured the amenities of the alcove. An horrid hag accosted me on the Palace Pier once upon a time. When I rejected her advances she intimated a suspicion that I might not be well endowed with this world's goods. "What has money to do with love?" she retorted, summing up the situation. No doubt she thought tiaras and coronets more interesting than my kind heart, which did not happen to be at her disposal.

Misère.

Diamonds only lead to hearts when we are the kind of Yarmouth-handed people, with interesting assets *nil*. If I had the face of Arthur Balfour and the morality of Mr. Lloyd George and the sporting instincts of the Reverend F. B. Meyer, I should have to pay people to hold my hand and gaze into my eyes. But the beauty of belonging to the Carey Street Club, and writing "assets *nil*" on your escutcheon, is that, if loved at all, you must be loved for yourself. No one will nudge your knee in a fly when assets are *nil*, unless you are the happy possessor of a very glad eye. Of course, the real joy of life would be to find some divine damsel who would lead us up to a jeweller's window, and say, "What shall I buy you?" It is supposed to be disgraceful to accept diamonds from women, but what rare joy to be offered them! The worst of knowing nice people is that you despise everybody else. How we do digress when we try to talk fast.

Clubs.

I remember, years and years ago, long before you were born or thought of, dearly beloved brethren, there was a little club called the Corinthian, in the purlieus of Saint James Crow's Square. There was also a wonderful play at the Gaiety Theatre, where George Edwardes (douce man!) found much nicer flappers for us than any one ever found before or since. And there was a lady who called herself Florence St. John, who jested with fortune-telling and said "Clubs—the Corinthian, and diamonds galore." I love that word, galore—it is so rude. Where was I? This is now being written in the hour of weakness, when we wait for dinner and the Beloved has disappeared to dress and the telephone is out of order. Anyhow, clubs are useless places. There is no friendliness about them unless you import your own créme de Kirsch. When I am President of the British Republic, I shall abolish all clubs except drinking-dens for the very poor.

It has just occurred to me that the club-suit is probably symbolical of fighting, rather than convivial establishments. You club a man over the head when he covets the heart of the Beloved; again, when you have an eye on his diamond pin. Clubs are therefore necessary safeguards of the two superior suits. They sometimes lead to spades in a green church-yard.

Spades.

I will not declare spades, because I hate anything which has to do with death. They are the last trump. Let us dismiss them with that feeble pun.

Cups.

Foreign packs have other symbols. If you played bridge with them, you could declare swords or coins or cups. Swords of course are a more distinguished version of clubs, and suggest fighting like gentlemen rather than like 'prentices. Coins on the other hand are a less delicate trump than diamonds. But cups introduce a new feature. If you want to win, you place them in the hand of your adversary and proceed to play hearts as soon as he is safely laid out under the table. Perhaps cups are an allusion to mediæval surgery. In that case, they are the equivalent of spades. All suits are evidently suitable for suiters.

Roughing.

At bridge, you must rough all the time if you want to make full use of your trumps. In other words, you are a loser if you take your partner's best heart. Many philosophers believe that hearts are won by roughness rather than by docility. I have seen success in both methods. Certain members of the fair sex mistake brutality for strength, and admire the hectoring bully who orders them to run about, fetch, carry, ring the bell; who mocks their finer instincts; who regards them as mere child-bearers and housekeepers. Others prefer to be placed on pedestals, to receive religious kisses on their lovely eyes, to be caressed and petted and worshipped. The danger of this treatment is that the "very gentle perfect knight" may degenerate into the category of the tame cat. Love would indeed be tasteless without the condiment of ardour. Rightly developed, it should resemble the maëlström, of which Schiller wrote:

Und es wallet und siedet und brauset und zischt.

No Trumps.

Why is it a compliment to call a man a trump? He may be overtrumped. I hope he will. I remember . . . No that is not quite a nice story. Let me use my own blue pencil. The golden rule in life is always to go no trumps. You may be impoverished hideously for the moment, but some day you will play up a small capital until it reaches many maximums. Then you will recover all your losses, bask with the Beloved, revive interrupted honeymoons, and so to the stars! *Per angusta at Augusta*, I leave it to you, partner.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

By Walter Moore.

SIR EDWARD CARSON.

The ponderous, "heavy father" style of Sir Edward Carson is always somewhat appalling to the interviewer, but when to that is added the knowledge that he has been breathing war and defiance in Belfast, it will at once be admitted that it needs more than ordinary courage for a stranger to approach him just now. But professional interviewers so often have to take their lives in their hands that, after a while, they become inured to danger.

Nevertheless, as I drew near to Eaton Place I found it necessary to utter to myself, "Be bold; be bold"; and yet again, "Be bold."

Thus fortified, I knocked at the door and demanded to see the eminent King's Counsel.

After a few moments of anxious waiting I was shown into his tragic presence. He was standing before his study fireplace; and his tall figure and long, saturnine face struck fear into my heart as he said, in deep, sepulchral tones:—

"Aw— to what do I owe the honour of this visit?"

"I—er—would be glad to have a few words with you, m'lud—that is, your eminence—I mean, learned sir—concerning the probable consequence of Home Rule in Ireland," I stammered.

"The *certain* consequences of Home Rule will be—blood!" declared Sir Edward, his voice dropping to a thrilling whisper at the last word.

"Dear me!" I cried, stepping back hastily, and colliding with a revolving book-case.

"Blood!" repeated Sir Edward, raising his voice and his right hand at one and the same time. "Even now the Orangemen are sharpening their scythes and faggot-hooks on their hearths and window-sills," he continued in rapid, strangled undertone, sweeping his hand wildly across his forehead, as if an imaginary fly had rested there. "I have done my utmost to arouse their fighting spirit, to fan to flame the fierce and fiery passions that have lurked so long quiescent in their breasts. And Oi've succaaded, bedad!" cried Sir Edward, dropping into the brogue in his excitement. "The passing av the Home Rule Bill will be the signal for all thrue Orangemin tu marrch tu Corrrk."

"And why to Cork?" I asked.

"Whoy tu Corrrk, is ut?" he repeated. "Whoy, becase ut sounds well, and becase ut's a long walk."

"You'll be getting into trouble if you are not careful," I warned him. "What you are saying, and what you have been saying in Belfast, might be construed as reason by your enemies."

"Thruble!" laughed Sir Edward, scornfully. "Is ut thruble Oi moind whin me counthry calls me? An Oirishman's nivir so happy as whin he's in thruble."

"And some Irishmen have the knack of getting out of it," I observed; adding, "do you remember when in your Trinity College days, you threw a bag of flour at the Lord Mayor of Dublin, and another wretched student was blamed and punished for it?"

"Hush!" cried Sir Edward, starting forward with one hand outstretched in entreaty. "Who tould yez? For Hivin's sake kape a still tongue in your head about thot. Remimber, Oi'm Mimber of Parrliamint fure Dublin Univarsity, an' 'twould'nt du for the story tu get about."

"I don't see why you should trouble so much about a little thing like that, when you are contemplating an armed rising of Orangemen," I remarked.

"Let me whisper in your ear," said Sir Edward, smiling sardonically, and approaching closely to my side.

"All right: but don't bite it," I retorted.

"It's all spoof," whispered the Privy Councillor. "It's a last kick, to see whether we can frighten the Government into postponing the Bill for a while, so as to give us a chance of turning them out before Asquith toes the line."

"You won't be inclined to call it spoof if you are arrested for inciting to riot," I observed. "You are contemplating a far more serious breach of the peace than ever Johnson and Wells intended. Mind someone does not summon you to show cause, etc., etc. That would be a pretty predicament for a Privy Councillor to find himself in."

"So it would," agreed Sir Edward musingly.

And I left him meditating.

CHARACTER DELINEATIONS.

By Our Tame Phrenologist.

VII.—MR. HERBERT SAMUEL.

Wha-what? . . . I beg your pardon! Very foolish mistake on my part, but in the dim light I took you for well, er—I daresay you can guess what I took you for . . . Accept my most profound apologies.

You wish for a character-reading? . . . Very good . . . Be seated, if you please. . . . The fee? . . . Oh, a mere trifle—say half a guinea to you. . . . Too much? . . . My dear sir; if you only realised the enormous expense of a phrenologist's education. . . . Well, say seven-and-six—that won't hurt you. . . . *But*, my dear sir, if I do it for one I must do it for all. . . . Well, shall we say five shillings? . . . I have never before given a demonstration for so small a sum. . . . No, sir—*no*, sir; simply *impossible*, sir. . . . Oh, well; make it eighteen pence—cash down—and I'll do what I can for the money.

Commencing with the bumps which indicate your Propensities, I find that *Amativeness* is so-so. . . . *Philoprogenitiveness* is also so-so. . . . *Concentrativeness*, large. . . . *Adhesiveness*, larger. . . . *Combativeness*, largest of the three. . . . *Destructiveness* is normal. . . . *Secretiveness* is prominent. . . . *Acquisitiveness*—great Scot, what an organ! . . . Lucky your hair hides it, sir. . . . My word, what a cranial outcrop! . . . I am inclined to think you must be suffering from elephantiasis of the *Acquisitive* organ. . . . Characteristic of your race? . . . Ah, now I understand, sir.

As regards your Sentiments, *Self-esteem*, as is the case with most professional politicians, is greatly over-developed; but you have cautiousness to hide it from general observation. *Hope* is large, and still growing. . . .

I daresay you are constantly hoping that you will be allowed to draw your £2,500 for a few years longer.

Referring now to your Intellectual faculties, I notice that *Size*, *Weight*, and *Locality* are each fully developed. This trinity of bumps should help you greatly in your post-office work. . . . *Language*, too, is nicely grown—as would be expected in a man of letters, not to speak of parcels. . . .

All your other talents are inconsiderable in size and irregular in shape. . . . Speaking generally, your head is a somewhat mediocre one, and . . .

What the deuce do you expect for eighteenpence—a fulsome laudation of talents that exist only in your imagination? . . . If so, you've come to the wrong shop. You beat down my price, so I'll see myself damned before I bolster up your brains. . . . Tchut!—don't talk to me. . . . A glorified postman, that's what you are! . . . What about the new stamps? . . . . If your bump of Form had only been decently developed, you wouldn't have inflicted such a dismal portrait of the King upon the stamp-licking public. . . .

Haven't said anything about your bump of *Firmness*?—I know I haven't—because I can't find it. You might have had one before the Transport Strike. A Postmaster-General who delivers his Majesty's mails by gracious permission of the strike agitators must have the firmness of a jellyfish. . . . I wonder how your great compatriot, Disraeli, would have acted in similar circumstances?

Good day; and *please* don't recommend me to your friends.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See Page ii, of Cover.

MRS. BULL.

EVERY TUESDAY. ∴ ONE PENNY.

How long is it since Your salary was raised?

A Question to every Business Man—Clerk, Salesman, Traveller, Book-Keeper, or Manager.

Just think for a moment how long it is since your salary was raised, how long since you received any promotion. Is it longer than you like? Have you worked hard and earnestly, but found your efforts go unrecognised and unrewarded?

Well, how much have you *learnt* during that time? How much do you know of the work outside your own department? Because to-day it is not mere hard work that brings success, half so much as *general* ability, the power to fill any position that offers. It is the all-round man who succeeds to-day, not the man of one job, who is denied promotion because he must wait to step into the shoes of the only man he can follow, the man *directly* above him. "All-round" knowledge is the knowledge that brings promotion.

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What then is this "all-round" knowledge? It is the knowledge that enables a man to have a general grasp of book-keeping and accountancy and at the same time to know the broad details of manufacturing and selling principles. It is the knowledge that the manager has to possess, that every successful man has had to obtain before he could achieve success.

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OUR SPECIAL POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

ANOTHER BLACK AND WHITE FIGHT—A BREACH OF THE PEACE FORBIDDEN.

(*Specially Mis-reported for* John Bull.)

By Richard Morton.

There were stirring scenes outside Longbow Street Police Court yesterday, when enormous crowds assembled for the purpose of witnessing the arrival of the principals in this important case.

When the magistrate (Mr. Smasham) took his seat on the bench, the defendants were called upon to surrender. They were: John Black, schoolboy, and William White, schoolboy; James Rooney and Robert Jinks, described as seconds, and James Blue, a monitor.

The Solicitor-General (Sir Simple Simon), who opened the case for the prosecution, said that the two principal defendants were two of the most abandoned, reckless, and determined ruffians it had ever been his unfortunate lot to meet with. Would it be credited that these young villains were actually contemplating a stand-up fight, each with the other? Such, however, was the truth, and it was in those regrettable circumstances that the present proceedings had been taken. Johnny Black and Willy White, the two principals, were summoned for contemplating a breach of the peace in the playground attached to the school they attended, and the other three defendants were arraigned for aiding, abetting, counselling, and procuring them to do so. These two children, young in years but versed in roguery, have truculently, wantonly, and of malice aforethought, defied the law of the land by arranging and agreeing to fight each other on Monday next, after school-hours, for three foreign stamps, one penny detective story, and twelve cigarette picture-cards. Further than that, the boys Rooney and Jinks have agreed to back-up and second the combatants, while Blue, a much bigger boy, who is old enough to know better, has actually made all the arrangements, supplied the stakes, and fixed the time and place for this contest.

The Magistrate: Blue, you are a big boy and a monitor, and you ought to know better.

Blue: Please, sir, the two boys, Black and White, were always quarrelling, and were such a nuisance to the class that I told them they had better have a scrap to see which was the better man, and then shut up for ever after.

The Solicitor-General: Here, sir, you have an instance of the most shocking juvenile depravity. This boy is absolutely proud of the scheme he has organised. He stands there and exults in the thought that he has persuaded, cajoled, lured, and bribed these two younger ruffians to fight and pummel each other, to draw blood and to make eyes black, to indulge in a riotous bout of blood calculated to turn a peaceful playground into a shambles.

Detective Fossil, of Scotland Yard, was then called, and said that, in his opinion, if the proposed contest took place, it would constitute a breach of the peace.

Black: Have you ever seen a slog in the school yard between two nippers like White and me?

Detective: No.

Black: Then what do you know about it?

Detective: Nothing.

Black: That lets me out.

The Solicitor-General said that was his case. He had proved that a desperate breach of the peace was contemplated, and he asked for a substantial bond to prevent it.

The Magistrate (*to defendants*): What have you to say?

Black: White and me's good pals. We wasn't going to hurt each other.

White: We only wanted to see which boy was best man.

Rooney and Jinks said their only desire was to see fair play, and Blue said his defence had already been stated.

In the result, the Magistrate decided that the proposed contest was a crime against civilisation and might have unheard-of consequences among generations of small boys as yet unborn. For these reasons, he had no hesitation in saying that, as a breach of the peace, it must not be allowed to take place. He therefore ordered the five defendants to give surety and to enter into their own bonds, to the amount of five thousand pounds each, to keep his Majesty's peace for the term of six months.

LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

[*Being communications from a young person to her friends and relations.*]

By Moore Anking.

Dear Jannit,—I been going to write ever so often, dear, 'cause I think you worthy of it. I shan't ever forget your kindness in lending me that shilling just when despare had gripped me and the world seemed dark; whichever way I turned just then the bar was up till you, dear lamb, came like the missing link, as I might say.

If you should want your money back before I show signs of parting up, don't be afraid to ask, dear heart. I'm not one that soon takes offence. One thing, dear, if I was never to pay it you'd be sure to get rewarded. I think any person who does a reel kindness is sure to get rewarded, either in this world or wherever they go to when they leave.

You wouldn't bleeve what a job I had to spell your name right, dear. I told mother about it, and she went out one or two days trying to get to know from ladies in the Terrace. When ma came back at night she seemed to know a lot of new words, only she was too tired to say them plain enough for me to understand. I do think mothers are a trial sometimes, and you hear of such funny things at the living pickshers.

After ma got round a bit she said your name took a dee and two ems, but I couldn't make them fit. I think everybody has a right to their proper name however silly it is, so I stuck to yours till I got the upper hand.

As for writing, dear, trouble is getting things together. I've known mother take our best pen to poke the fire. Soon's I get things fixed mother thinks nothing of snatching the writing paper if she wants a clean bit in a hurry. Of course, she never brings it back, though I don't s'pose I should use it if she did. Get fed up, dear, don't you, when there's so much pernishusness before you make a fair start.

Still, dear, you'll be glad to know that you live in memory, so to speak. I'm sure to dream of you if I have a heavy supper or eat anything that makes me feel bad in the night.

Seems funny me being at home with mother again and you away in Scawtland. Though I can almost see you now, dear, wearing those paw and dial deckorations you used to gather in the coal-shed, and your fringe either loaded down with brown paper and bits of wire or sticking through the brim of your hat like a bunch of nails.

I s'pose, dear, you're still hanging on with the young gentleman who used to bring the pig-meat. Should think with proper care you might do all right, you two. I don't s'pose he's told you, dear, but he was the first creature I saw when I landed in Scawtland. Travelling hadn't done me any good, not fizzically, and when he showed up to carry the boxes and things, the sight of him brought on fer-men-tation. Oh my, I was bad. I didn't care whether I lived or took the train to Greenock.

Still, it's an old saying and a true one—A person can get used to anything and still survive. In a few weeks I got so's I could watch your john pottering about nearly every day and not feel sick at the sight of him—though I certainly did get a shock the first time I found he really was alive.

My poor father used to say If you can't get what you'd like, best thing is to like what you get. If you and your john only bear this in mind you'll be able to endure each other, and that's something.

I often talk about your native wilderness to Mister Bertram—gentleman friend of mine. I was only telling him about it a day or two ago. When I told him about the person known as the Mackintosh of the Mackintoshes, my gentleman friend said he'd sooner be an Overall of the Overalls. After that I thought it only right and proper to change the subject. What with one thing and the other, I do think this has been a trying summer for us of the weeker sex, and what must it have been for the week-enders! What, what?

I hope, dear, you'll try and write soon. Send me a nice long letter and tell me everything. x x x x

Your loving and devoted friend,

Jane Ann.

P.S.—I'm not putting any stamp on this letter, Jannit love. You can reduct it off the shilling I owe you.—J. A.

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STRIKING PRONOUNCEMENT!

"Food Betterment"—An Urgent National Need.

Wonderful New "Drink-Diet."

Mr. Sandow now makes his statement on the food question and his new Health and Strength Cocoa.

The announcements which have already appeared have resulted in an overwhelming number of personal letters to Mr. Sandow, and it is clearly evident that the new "Drink-Diet" is awaited with the keenest interest throughout the Kingdom.

WHAT THE MANIFESTO MEANS.

The gravity and urgency of the food problem with which Mr. Sandow deals is openly admitted by the intellectual and political leaders of the nation; it has a direct bearing upon almost every other social question.

Napoleon said "an army marches upon its stomach," meaning that its progress depended upon its food supply. Similarly the progress and efficiency of the nation's army of workers and thinkers depend upon the nourishing quality of its food.

"I would like to make it clear," says Mr. Sandow, "that my Health and Strength Cocoa is something much more than 'another new cocoa.'

"It is so different indeed from ordinary cocoa that I prefer to call it a 'Drink-Diet,' for by special patent processes of manufacture the finest and most suitable cocoa-beans are so treated that the result surpasses in nutritiousness, digestibility, economy, and flavour, anything that I have yet known.

"In a word, this 'Drink-Diet' embodies my ideal of what a Food Beverage should be.

"I have always had the highest esteem for Cocoa as an article of diet. When I, a weak, sickly lad, resolved to make myself strong and well, Cocoa was of great help to me.

"In my capacity as Health Adviser at my Institute, I frequently recommended cocoa to men and women suffering from debility, defective physique, and nerve troubles, and to whom I saw that the nutritive elements contained in cocoa would be of the greatest benefit.

"But I found that many people were debarred from using cocoa, because of its liability to produce indigestion.

"There is such a high percentage of insoluble fat and also of innutritious matter in most manufactured cocoas that it so some people presented difficulties of digestion.

"I determined to see if I could not get over these difficulties.

"My experience as Physical Culturist showed me there was imperative need for an all-efficient, nutritious, and easily assimilable food.

"I realised that the production of such a food would not only simplify Physical Culture, but would also be a tremendous factor in the betterment of national health and physique.

The Manifesto.

The most serious problem which confronts the world to-day is that of Food.

Almost imperceptibly the stress of modern life has increased to such an extent that ordinary food-stuffs have ceased to be equal to the demand of body, brain, and nerve for adequate nourishment.

This demand can only be satisfied by the production of foods containing a higher percentage of easily-digestible nourishment; and that nourishment must be of the highest possible efficiency.

Work has become a science.

Feeding must become a science too.

The solution of this vital problem carries with it the solution of other pressing problems:

1. The High Cost of Living.
2. Individual Health.
3. Mental Efficiency.
4. Nerve Strength and Tone.
5. Physical Fitness.
6. National Stability & Progress.

As a Health Specialist, the question has occupied my closest attention for a lengthy period, and latterly I have devoted myself to investigation and experiment with the object of producing an efficient Food Beverage.

The outcome is my Health and Strength Cocoa, which I consider worthy to be the staple 'drink-diet' of a people great in mind, great in body, and great in achievement.

Eugen Sandow

MR. SANDOW'S MANIFESTO *(continued).*

"Few people seem to realise the important bearing which food has upon the nation's health and strength, its mental efficiency and business success, and its character and progress. It is not too much to say that the Food makes the Nation, and I believe that cocoa would have been a very much more popular beverage than it is if it had not been subject to the drawbacks which have now been eliminated in my new Health and Strength Cocoa.

"I have been consulted by large numbers of sufferers from physical defects, nerve troubles, and functional disorders who were simply the victims of malnutrition.

"Their tissues were being slowly starved and rendered incapable of meeting the stress imposed by modern conditions of existence.

"There is something almost grotesque in the idea of people starving in spite of three or more good meals a day; but it is a grim fact. Eating and drinking do not always mean feeding; the quality of the food is of infinitely greater importance than the quantity.

"I studied the matter more closely, and **my new Health and Strength Cocoa is the result; it fulfils all my hopes. It is an absolutely pure cocoa from which the excess of insoluble fats and indigestible waste material is eliminated and the percentage of albumenoids is thereby proportionately increased. It is *not* a medicated cocoa but a pure cocoa perfected.**

"This immense gain in both quantity and quality of nutritive substance, and in case of digestibility, is only made possible by the special processes of grinding and wind-sifting by which the particles of my Health and Strength Cocoa are reduced to an extraordinary degree of fineness.

"At the same time the cocoa is made far more soluble, and the flavour is improved beyond all comparison. Ordinary cocoas give you no idea of the luscious flavour of my cocoa; in fact, it has been said that the difference is as great as between skimmed milk and rich cream.

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

"The wonderful economy of my Health and Strength Cocoa is a point of great interest. I have already shown that it is superior in nutriment, superior in digestibility, and superior in palatability.

"It is also superior in economy, because although the cost per pound is the same as ordinary cocoa, owing to the fine grinding it bulks somewhat larger.

"A pound tin of my cocoa, therefore, makes more cups of cocoa. This economy is fourfold:

FIRST. You get more cups of cooca to the pound.

SECOND. Each cup contains more nutriment.

THIRD. The nutriment is of a higher standard of quality.

FOURTH. It is more easily and completely digested.

"Thus my 'Drink-Diet' directly affects the high cost of living, of which we have heard so much recently. It reduces the living cost because it is a food which feeds you more.

"I confidently anticipate being able to open the premises in the New Kent Road and to place my 'Drink-Diet' on sale almost immediately.

"An army of workers is engaged night and day putting the finishing touches to my new premises, and I shall soon be in a position to meet all demands for supplies.

"I only ask the public for a little grace. My task is a big one, for recent events show me that I shall be faced by a huge national demand, and already, before it is actually on sale, I have had to considerably extend my plans and to arrange for still greater facilities for the production of my Health and Strength Cocoa."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

According to present arrangements **Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa** will be on sale throughout the United Kingdom during the next few days at the following prices:

1 lb. tins - - **2/6**
½ lb. tins - - **1/3**
¼ lb. tins - - **7½d.**

READERS SHOULD THEREFORE PLACE THEIR ORDERS WITH THEIR LOCAL TRADESMEN AT ONCE IN ORDER TO SECURE THEMSELVES AGAINST DISAPPOINTMENT.

For the benefit of those who cannot obtain the new Cocoa locally, special arrangements have been made whereby they can procure it direct from these offices by post, and post free. An emergeney staff has been organised to deal with such applications. which should be made upon the following supply Coupon.

..... *Cut along this line* .....

SUPPLY COUPON.

TO MR. EUGEN SANDOW,
5 to 21, New Kent Road, London, S.E.

Being unable to obtain a supply locally, I request you will send me by post (and post free) *..... of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa, for which I enclose Postal Order to the value of .....

SIGNED .....

Full Po tal Address.....

....
* State quantity required.

For 1 lb. tins send P.O. 2/6; for ½ lb. send P.O. 1/3; for ¼ lb. send P.O. and stamps 7½d.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill, Home Secretary.

DEAR MR. CHURCHILL,—*Quantum mutatus ab illo!* You remember the origin of that phrase, don't you? Hector, the Trojan warrior, had been slain by Achilles, who, to emphasise his triumph, lashed the dead body to the wheels of his chariot and dragged it round the walls of Troy.

Now that, my dear Home Secretary, appears to me to be an apt illustration of the position you have placed yourself in by yielding to the maudlin appeal of the Rev. F. B. Meyer—whose little pamphlet, in the form of a letter "To a Boy, 12 to 14," I commend to your attention, with the suggestion that you should send *that* on to the Public Prosecutor, with a suitable recommendation.

Why, my dear Churchill, did you—one of the giants of the Ministry—listen to the prating of this prurient puritan? Viewed from any standpoint, it was a mistake to stop the Fight. The niggers must draw one of two conclusions. Either the white man is afraid of them—or he considers them beneath him. And neither of those ideas is good for the niggers. Think it over.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty.

DEAR REGGIE,—I have, as you know, played my well-known slogan concerning Business on the harp, sackbut and psaltery, on trumpets also and on shawms, and as I note that your emissaries have been distinguishing themselves at Buckie in the Land o' Burns—Robert, not John—perhaps I had better now play it on the bagpipes. Recently the *Dreadnought* cutter became a total wreck in the harbour—whether it struck a rock, ran into a stone wall, or turned a somersault I forget. At any rate, the wreckage was left lying about for several days and, concluding that you had no further use for it, that the Kaiser didn't want it, and that it would make firewood for the kitchen and souvenirs for the drawing-room, three men employed at the harbour—Robert Newlands, a diver, Thomas Lawson, a labourer, and William Newlands, a labourer—started to chip bits off with axes. Lieutenant Hand and Chief Coastguard Nebb having perceived them engaged in this nefarious occupation, the Admiralty was communicated with, and the men were brought before the Provost of Buckie and charged with intent to steal bits of the cutter.

Not only were these men charged, Reggie, but some school-boys were charged with a similar offence. In fact, most people, old and young, in Buckie are in possession of some of the wreckage, and my wonder is how the Provost and the Fiscal and the Head Constable and the minister o' the kirk and the bellman escaped the vigilance of your Excellency's Department of State. If this lumber was of any value to the British Navy—if you intended to use it up as bulwarks for a new Super-Dreadnought, handles for deck mops, or fuel for sea pie—why didn't you order the Atlantic Squadron to protect it, or put up a notice that anybody found stealing the chips until you had time to collect them, three years hence, would be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law? Evidently the Provost shared this view, for, finding the accused not guilty, he said "the explanation probably is that Government departments are slow, and they took four days to do what a Buckie fisherman would do better in an hour." On the whole, my dear Reggie, and speaking as one naval expert to another, I feel that the Admiralty have not distinguished themselves in this business; to be candid, they have made fools of themselves. Think of me on the larboard watch.

JOHN BULL.

To William Gladstone, Esq., M.P.

DEAR "W. G.,"—Glad to welcome another Gladstone to the political fold. Opinions are still divided about the genius and wisdom of your famous grandfather, but there can be no doubt about his conscientiousness and courage. Now is your opportunity to make a great name for yourself. Every possible advantage is yours. Realise that the Party system is dead and come forward boldly with a programme that is in accord with the spirit of the age. Then I may be able to find you some useful work to do under the Business Government. I like your looks.

JOHN BULL.

To Colonel J. S. Rustee, Chairman of Magistrates, Lindsey Police Court, Lincoln.

DEAR COLONEL,—Your gallant and magnanimous behaviour to two Germans charged before you a few days ago convinces me that if ever you met the legions of the Kaiser in gory strife you would win a medal or a monument. Three men, James Harrison, Richard Plaisted, and Samuel Knights, were caught begging at Sturton-by-Stow, and, being English, you sentenced them to seven days' hard labour. They should really have got fourteen days', but as you were in a merciful mood at the time you let them off lightly. While they were begging at Sturton, Herr Wilhelm Erbert and Herr Bernard Frohlich were begging at Reepham. Being also caught within the meaning of the Act, and Germans, it was natural that, having regard to those delightful perspectives of justice which usually illumine the vision of the British magistracy, you should order them to be given a *recherché* repast by the police superintendent, that they should be sent after dinner to the port of Grimsby with free railway tickets in their pockets, and that you should treat them to a treacly speech, which must have made them sticky all over—said they were discharged and could go back to the Vaterlandt; requested them to tell all their friends when they got there how nicely the English had treated them; solemnly assured them there wasn't any ill-feeling in this country against the Germans, but didn't advise them to read the *Daily Mail*; alleged that if there was any enmity between Germany and Britain it was due to Germany trying to get up a row; hoped they would spread the glad tidings that Germans would always be helped in this country when in trouble; and generally splashed the syrup about as though you were head partner in a German sweet-stuff factory.

Now, my dear Colonel, don't misunderstand me. I don't object to the golden syrup; in fact, I think it is an improvement on mud. What I complain of is the inequality of its distribution. Why give all the syrup to the German beggars and all the gall and wormwood to the English ones? Why slop over with sympathy and magnanimity and food and free railway fares when Germans are out for a crust or a copper, and give Englishmen seven days' for the same thing? Charity should begin at home, even if it never goes any farther. When England is a piece of land entirely surrounded by Germans, I shall mention your name to the Kaiser for special reward. Meanwhile, *Ich wunsche Ihnen einen guten morgen.*

JOHN BULL.

To the Lord Mayor, Mansion House, London.

MY LORD,—In the accounts of the Bournemouth Town Council concerning the entertaining of yourself and thirty provincial mayors during the late centenary fêtes, your lordship will be interested to notice the item, "Lane and Co. for wines, spirits, etc., after Sunday service, £17 6s. 11d.". May I ask, merely as a means of guiding my choice to a place of worship when next I visit Bournemouth on a Sunday, or other holy day, whether your lordship and your lordship's provincial colleagues found the sermon dry? I could not think of lending my patronage and presence to a clergyman who drove me to drink.

JOHN BULL.

Mahmud Shefket Pasha, War Minister, Constantinople.

Now that Italy has started stealing Turkey, had not you better start stealing Greece? Pity there is not a European policeman to be relied on, otherwise Italy would be run in for assembling create a nuisance and provoking breach of the peace.

BULL.

Sir Thomas Crosby, Lord Mayor-Elect, London.

Congratulations your election Lord Mayor London, age eighty-one. Earnestly hope you'll be living after having got through the banquets. *What* a constitution you must have!

BULL.

To "John Bull" Readers, Everywhere.

Don't forget that all roads lead to the Crystal Palace on Saturday. Although it is the League Day, any of you will be welcome. Continuous entertainments, at reduced prices, from 10 a.m. till 7 p.m.—and then the President's momentous speech.

JOHN BULL.

THE WALRUS AND THE CARPENTER.

"If these were only cleared away,"
They said, "it *would* be grand."—(*See page* 482.)

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

Italy's Little War Disturbs the Financial Centres—An Early Termination Expected—£120,000 Profit on a Yankee "Bear" to a Jewish Trio.

The fates are against the stock markets and the maintenance of values of securities. Hardly has one danger been surmounted when another arises. The Morocco question had hardly been settled when Italy must declare war upon Turkey, in order to gain possession of the long-coveted Tripoli. The Irish Railway Strike has come to an ignominious end, but a big coal strike is now talked of, and another railway strike is predicted, but as the prophet is Keir Hardie, little importance attaches to the utterance, as it is so clearly a case of the wish being father to the thought. The stoppage of the Bank of Egypt is another regrettable incident, and, for my part, I cannot understand how a board including several leading English bankers can have allowed matters to go so far without extricating the institution from its difficulties, especially when, after the death of Luzzato Pasha, the general manager, they were in complete control. I can imagine the feelings of the unfortunate shareholders of the £25 shares, £12 10s. paid, who are now faced with the prospect of having to pay up at least a portion of the amount. The event has caused selling of bank shares with uncalled liability, although, of course, the leading London joint stock banks are absolutely safe. It is different with banks trading in foreign parts and even in British dependencies and dominions. Great care should be exercised in such investments, and also in depositing money with them. Reverting to the war between Italy and Turkey, there cannot be much fighting as the countries are not neighbours, and the Italian navy is so immeasurably superior. The Powers, moreover, all are anxious to localise the struggle, and there is every prospect that after the occupation of the Tripolitan ports by Italy, they will strongly urge negotiations for a peaceable settlement. When that happens—provided no fresh trouble breaks out—the stock markets will enjoy a strong rally. The Paris and Berlin Bourses, moreover, are passing through their severe Settlements, and will breathe more freely. Upon the whole, the markets have withstood the effect of this fresh political outbreak remarkably well. It is true that Turks and Italians have suffered, but Continental Government stocks are wisely left alone by English investors. Consols at 77⅛ do not indicate a scare, the leading South American Government stocks have been supported, and Argentine Rails are firm, while Mexican Rails received the Ordinary dividend of 2½ per cent., which I foreshadowed, and are up 3 points. After a smart rise, Kaffirs and Rhodesians have receded on the war news, but they are also the first to rise again, as the position both in South Africa and in the market is excellent. Canadian Pacifics, too, look promising, and Yankees, after the recent disastrous fluctuations, are bracing up again, but I would not trust them yet. How about the clever Jewish trio who netted £40,000 each on the "Bear" tack?

Kaffirs Lower on Paris Sales in Connection with the Settlement—Rhodesians Irregular—Ida "H" Improve—Rise in Tin.

The news from the Transvaal is upon the whole favourable, and the East Rand Proprietary incident has passed into a more favourable phase, as the Bearish rumours concerning the shutting down of the mill have been absolutely contradicted, and the Transvaal Government has also altered its view with regard to the inquiry, which will not be a Government inquiry, but an inquiry under the Company law. These shares are, therefore, somewhat firmer, but the declaration of war by Italy against Turkey, clashing as it did with the Settlement on the Paris and Berlin Bourses, has caused some decline in the Kaffir Circus, which will no doubt be recovered as soon as matters are settling down. As a matter of fact, the late rise in Kaffirs was caused by moderate support on the part of one of the big houses, which found its course rendered easy by the scarcity of floating stock. According to an *African World* cable, a rumour is current of a new area of payable ground having been located on the Midas Deep, and Sir Abe Bailey is credited with the intention of resuming operations on the property of the New Florida Estates in the Heidelberg district. *Rhodesians* have stood the ominous political news much better than *Kaffirs*, and it will not take much to set them going again, as advices are most satisfactory. The following are the most suitable for purchase:—*Rhodesia Exploration* at 2⅛, ex the 10 per cent dividend, *Falcon Mines* at 1½, *Amalgamated Props.* at 5s. 6d., *Antelope* at 6s. 3d., *Cam and Motor* at 20s. 3d., *Eldorado* at 3½, *Thistle Etna* at ⅞, *Shamva* at 4½; *Chartered* and *Tanganyika* have reacted, owing to their being largely held in Paris. Amongst *West Australian Mines*, the outstanding feature has been a further rise in *Ida "H"* to 8s. 6d. The latest news is to the effect that the September crushing will be satisfactory, in which case dividends will be resumed at about October 15. I am glad that my hint with regard to these shares is proving correct, and my readers will remember that I recommended them first when they stood at 7s. *Copper and Copper Mines* are fluctuating wildly with the movements of *American Rails* in Wall Street, but a very sharp recovery has taken place in *Tin*, which is now up at £183 again, having recovered 10 points during the last few days.

"Northern Terrors"—At Last.

At last we have the prospectus of the new edition of our old friend, "Northern Terrors," in the shape of the new Northern Territory Explorers, Limited. Quite apart from the intrinsic merits of the scheme itself, the promoters have certainly set a unique example. Not only is there to be no promotion money, with the result that the whole of the subscribed capital will be intact for the purposes of the company's business, but a most ingenious method has been devised by which shareholders will also be creditors. Apart from the Founders' shares, which the promoters have the right to apply for in consideration of their bearing the whole of the expenses of the formation of the company and of other services, the capital consists of £100,000 in profit-sharing bonds, which, in addition to 5% interest per annum, divide amongst them half the profits of the company. In other words, the holders become creditors of the undertaking, receiving 5% interest upon their money, and a bonus in the shape of half the company's earnings. As regards the company itself, nothing cleaner has come before me for many a day past. The company enters upon the exploration and development of a goldfield of exceptional richness, with wolfram, tin, and copper also abundant, with its entire capital intact and not committed to any preliminary financial obligations. The Board includes Mr. D. D. Rosewarne, the late Government Inspector of Mines for South Australia—whose faith in the territory has never wavered, and in respect of whom it is but fair to say that wherever his predictions and opinions have been put to a practical test they have been fully vindicated. On the whole, I am prepared to see a revival of the Northern Territory boom, and do not think my readers can go far wrong in applying for the profit-sharing bonds now offered for subscription. I quite expect to see them at a substantial premium as soon as a market is established.

Rubber Up-to-Date—Further Dividends.

The rubber position up to date is of considerable interest at the present juncture. During the last few days prices have exhibited a shrinking tendency, sellers taking advantage of the fact that nearly 500 tons of rubber are being offered at this week's auctions. The prices obtained for the same, however, are satisfactory, indicating that manufacturers are still replenishing their stocks as the opportunity offers. Trade requirements, in fact, continue on a large scale, while speculative purchases have been conspicuous by their absence. This applies more especially to the Brazilian product, and if, as is reported, the Brazilian Government intend to place a prohibitive export duty on rubber shipments from Para, the effect thereof can only be to still further increase the demand for plantation rubber. Meantime, large forward contracts in the latter are still being fixed up, and large quantities are being shipped direct to America and the Continent, so that there is no fear, at present, at any rate, of any undue accumulation of supplies. Moreover, some of the big plantation companies are making up for lower prices by a considerable expansion in production. In this way, for instance, the *Straits Rubber* Company has just been able to announce a second interim dividend of 10 per cent., making 20 per cent. so far paid for the current year, and which compares with a total of 24 per cent. for the whole of the previous year. Then again, the *Seafield* interim dividend is unchanged at 15 per cent., while the following other substantial dividends have been announced:—*Bantong*, 5 per cent. (making 10 per cent. for year); *Bukit Rajah*, 25 per cent.; *Federated Selangor*, 30 per cent.; *Straits Rubber*, 10 per cent.; *Golconda Malay*, 20 per cent.; *St. George*, 20 per cent.; *Sapumalkande*, 5 per cent.; *Selaba*, 10 per cent.; *Sungei Salak*, 5 per cent.; *Langkat Sumatra*, 10 per cent., *Puntinya*, 10 per cent. Then, again, the

Sumatra Para directors' report announces a balance dividend of 25 per cent., making 37½ per cent. for year, which compares with a total of 33⅓ per cent. for the preceding year. Nevertheless, although also a number of dividends have recently been deducted, the leading shares are all lower, including *Linggis* at 38s., *Vallambrosa* at 27s., *Anglo-Malay* at 17s., *Highlands* at 4, etc. Yet the dividends so far declared, and the forward contracts already made, ensure very substantial dividends, and correspondingly high yields, for some time to come.

A Good Gamble—Murchison Associated.

I am continually being asked to mention a "rubbish" priced good gamble, and in this connection I do not hesitate to name Murchison Associated, now quoted about one shilling. It owns a property adjoining the famous Fingall, from which many millions' worth of gold were won. The following cablegram may point that the turn of fortune to the Murchison Associated Company has come—"Have discovered something good. The ore on dump averages 6 ozs. per ton. The ore from bottom assays 10 ozs. per ton." The importance of this message is not understood, but when it is there should be a big demand for the shares and a marked advance in their value. Besides its mining properties, the Murchison Associated has valuable rubber interests in Ceylon. A venture on the shares carries the chance of a big prize, and the risk is small.

Oil Shares Suffer from the War News—Maikop Shares Touch Bottom.

All the indications go to show that both sides are heartily tired of the oil war, by which no one gains, but all are suffering huge losses, and it probably only remains for one or other of the groups to make the first advances in order to bring this senseless struggle to an end. If the directors of the *Shell Transport* consider it a climb down to open negotiations, then the shareholders, for their own sakes, ought to take matters in their hands and insist upon their doing so. The *Standard Oil* shareholders might also take the hint. Meantime, *Shell Transports* have been over 80s., but under the influence of the war news have come down again to 79s. Similarly, *Spies* have reacted to 31s. 6d. The Maikop group has suffered a further decline, but matters appear now to be on the mend, and it may be taken for granted that the fall in quotations had nothing to do with the properties themselves, but was due entirely to liquidation caused by a quarrel between some of the leaders. But the selling is now at an end. *Black Seas* have been down to ⅞ and rallied to ⅝ bid, while *Maikop Pipeline* stand at 12s., after dropping to 10s., and so on. *Maikop Victory* at ⅛ discount look remarkably cheap, by the way. On the other hand, I have every reason to anticipate a decided move in *Red Sea Oilfields*, which are still to be picked up at under ¾, in view of certain important developments which will be announced in a few days.

Lost Savings.

Under this heading two readers of John Bull, husband and wife, state that they have lost the whole of their savings, some £60, through their dealings with the "Intermediary," of 3, City Road, Finsbury Square, E.C., the English branch of the L'Intermédiare, Paris, 6, Rue Favart, managing proprietor, M. X. Valentyns. It seems that they have been recommending "genuine dealings in French Consols," and "regular monthly payments of profits, capital withdrawal at short notice," and they boasted of having paid on £20 shares net profits every month since January, 1908. My correspondents appear to have taken three shares of £20 each, and they seem to have received two small dividends. I have before me a letter written by Mr. W. J. Greenwood, the London manager, dated June 30th, who tried to resuscitate the waning confidence of my correspondents, in which he says that "they could not get away from the fact that they kept on paying dividends month after month. To prove that they had actually made the profits, they opened their books to every subscriber, and if they had been acting dishonestly they would not invite subscribers to go through their accounts or encourage them to elect an Audit Committee for that purpose." The letter ends with the following phrase:—"You will find that after a little while your friends will come round all right. Do not forget to tell them each time you draw a dividend." Then comes a letter dated August 9th remitting only 4s. for the July dividend of 1 share, but stating that August would show improvement. Finally, on September 15th my correspondent and his friends received the announcement from Mr. Greenwood, writing from another firm, the Consols Investment Company, Limited, 3 and 5, City Road, London, E.C., stating that he regretted to inform them that the "Intermediary" had failed, owing to its funds having been largely used in Paris for purposes outside of its legitimate business, but the directors of the Consols Investment Company had arranged to take in hand the claims of the English depositors, and to secure them from any loss whatever. I do not know what the concern with the high-sounding name of the Consols Investment Company, Limited, may be, but it has the same director, W. J. Greenwood, as the "Intermediary" had, and the same address. The matter undoubtedly requires the most searching enquiry, and I trust that this will at once be undertaken. If other shareholders in the "Intermediary" will communicate with me I will place them in communication with each other, and then perhaps it will be possible to undertake the shareholders' audit, which Mr. Greenwood put forward at an attraction, under the auspices of the Official Receiver. It is obvious that these people have no right to transfer in this high-handed manner money which had been confided to them, and with regard to which they had written in such bombastic language.

Reasonably Safe Investments to Yield Four to Five per Cent.

I have of late received so many requests for selections of stocks to yield from 4 to 5 per cent. with reasonable safety, that it is evidently useful to supply to those of my readers who wish to place money on such terms a table from which they can make their choice. Many of the inquiries reached me from investors or depositors in building societies, who are not unnaturally rendered nervous by the effect of the land legislation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer upon the value of real estate. Others proceed from depositors in penny banks, savings banks, etc., who have been frightened by recent occurrences with so-called banks. To all these my advice is to place the money into sound securities, so as to get rid of this anxiety and to obtain a good return for their money—better even than the 3½ to 4 per cent. they may have been receiving. The stocks contained in the following table are not speculative, and if the investment is spread over—say, half-a-dozen stocks of this list—it should certainly be reasonably safe:—

4 TO 5 PER CENT. YIELDING STOCKS.

	Interest p.c.	Highest, 1910-11.	Present Price.	Yield p.c. per ann. £ s. d.
Johannesburg Inscribed	4	101½	100	4 0 0
Port Louis (Mauritius)	5	104	102	4 18 0
Richmond (City of), Melb. ..	5	104½	102	4 18 0
Wellington (City) 1907	4	102½	100	4 0 0
Copenhagen (City of)	3½	92½	89	4 0 0
Rio de Janeiro Gld. Bds. ..	5	104½	103	4 17 0
Argentine Ext. 1887	3½	87	85	4 2 5
Brazilian (Lloyd Brazil)	5	103½	102	4 18 0
Japan 1907	5	107½	107	4 13 6
Great Northern Pref. Ord. ..	4	97	94	4 5 0
London Brighton Pref. Ord. ..	6	137½	132	4 11 0
Great Central Perp. Pref. ..	4	101½	100	4 0 0
Southern Punjab Cum. Pref. ..	4	101	98½	4 2 9
Canadian Northern Perp Cons. Deb.	4	98½	97	4 2 6
Grand Trunk Guar.	4	96½	96¼	4 3 0
New Cape Cent. L. Mt. Deb. ..	4	96	96	4 3 3
Antofagasta Cum. Pref.	5	109	109	4 11 0
Central Argentine Pref. (£10) ..	7	18½	16	1 9 3
Entre Rios 1st Pref.	5	101½	101	4 19 0
San Paul Pref.	5	117	116	4 6 3
South Manchurian L. Bds. ..	5	107	104	4 16 3
Apollinaris Irred. Deb.	4	81	81	4 18 9
Assoc. Cement 1st Mtg. Deb. ..	4½	94	94½	4 13 0
Borax Cons. 2nd Deb.	5	111	110	4 11 0
City of London Real Prop. Deb. 1922	3½	92	92	4 1 6
Dalgety Irred. Deb.	4½	111	106	4 5 0
Eng. Sew. Cotton Cum. Pfce. (£1)	5	243	1 3-10	4 4 6
Goldsborough Mort. "A" Deb.	4	91	90	4 8 0
Underground Elec. Prior Lien Bds.	5	104	101	4 19 6
City of Ldn. Elec. Cum. Pref. (£10)	6	13	12½	4 18 0
Shawinigan Water & Power 1st Mtg. Bds.	5	110½	109	4 11 0
Bolckow Vaughan Cum. Pref. (£20)	5	23½	22	4 13 3
Pearson and Knowles Cum. Pref. "A" (£5)	6	6½	6	5 6 7
Vickers Limited Non-cum. Pref.	5	113½	111	4 10 0
Ldn. General Omnibus "B" Debs.	5	101	100	5 0 0

Let me add for the information of those who hitherto have been merely depositors or shareholders in Building Societies, Penny Banks, etc., that they will have to buy the stocks through a respectable firm of stockbrokers, members of the Stock Exchange, who will make a small charge for commission. The list covers a diversity of investments, which are also geographically distributed. The first six are Colonial or foreign municipal stocks or bonds. Then follow some Foreign Government securities. Home Railway preference stocks as well as Colonial prefs. and debentures are also represented in the list, while the foreign railway prefs. and debentures yield excellent returns, and so do some of the commercial and industrial preference stocks or debentures—home and Colonial. Present prices, it will be seen, are moderate as compared with the quotations touched in the last two years; while others were so steady that they were never quoted at any other price.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor JOHN BULL, *2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but as token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

NEW NORTHERN TERRITORY EXPLORERS.—In reply to many correspondents, I can only say that I think an investment in this Company will prove remunerative. I expect to see the bonds at a premium.

TRUST NOT THE TRUST.—E. W. P. (Richmond).—I do not know whether the same parties are behind these concerns, but both are undesirable.

MINERAL WATER PROPERTY FOR CURING GOUT, KIDNEY DISEASES, ETC.—C. J. B.—I cannot name you exactly a promoter who would go in for such a property of eight acres situate in Germany, the vendors' price being £25,000.

AMERICAN CONCERN.—J. S. (Hull).—No doubt the concern is a prosperous one, but an investment in it cannot be regarded as "safe." This description applies only to securities of the kind mentioned in reply to "E. A. D." last week, and you should always bear in mind that the higher the yield the greater the risk.

SMALL INVESTMENT.—O.—I do not care much for any of the stocks mentioned. You can do better, as regards investment, in Home Railway Preferred stocks, while in the case of speculative securities, Rhodesians would be preferable, such as Rhodesia Exploration, Falcon, Amalgamated Props., etc.

VARIOUS HOLDINGS.—B. D.—You would be fully protected, but, of course, such a question should not even arise in the case of the leading institutions. But why not rent a safe in a safe deposit, and thus make assurance doubly sure? Put the other £100 into a Home Railway stock—North-Western, for instance.

£5,000 INVESTMENT.—F. B. C.—All the stocks mentioned are fair holdings of their kind, and sound enough, although not coming within the gilt-edged category, which does not offer more than 3½ per cent. per annum. With D, H, and I you must not overlook political risks, although their interest is well enough secured. As regards I, it is hardly advisable to sell now, and arrangements are in progress for placing the finances of the country on a sounder footing. The spreading of the investment, as proposed, should reduce the risk to a minimum.

INDUSTRIALS.—HARD WORKER.—Both are good Industrial Companies, but, of course, subject to the usual risks of such concerns. Hold your shares for the present, but keep your eye on the same, and when you can sell at a profit, do so.

ARIZONA MINE.—SIDUS.—There is no market, and no information available here concerning the Denver and Globe M. and S. Co., Tombstone, Arizona.

F.I.A.T. MOTORS.—W. D. H. M.—No information later than that which you mention is available, but perhaps if this should meet the eye of the Secretary, he will give me some information as to the present position of the concern for your benefit and that of other shareholders.

£1,500 TO £2,000 INVESTMENT.—S. R. B.—The highest return obtainable on Australian Government Bonds is 3 11-16 per cent. per annum, on Western Australian 3½ per cent. Bonds, now quoted at under 97. You might also put some of the money into: Johannesburg Municipal 4 per cent. Stock at 100; Japanese 4 per cent. at 76½; Great Central Railway 4 per cent. 1889 Preference stock at 76; and Grand Trunk Railway Five per Cent. First Preference stock at 111.

CHANNEL COAST AND MEDITERRANEAN FREEHOLD RESORTS.—A. B. W.—This is a promising enterprise, and a new seaside resort, St. Cecile, is doing well. Land is rising in value. The Preference shares are a good purchase.

TIMBER HOLDINGS.—J. A. McI.—I regret being unable to give you any comfort with regard to these holdings. (1) These skating rink companies have generally fallen upon bad times, and there is no market for the same, or any information available here.

£150 INVESTMENT.—NOVICE.—If you want a good speculative gamble, why not buy a Rhodesian, such as Amalgamated Props.? The Company in question is only a third or fourth-rate concern.

£70 INVESTMENT.—W. J. B.—Yes, put the money into Midland Deferred, as you suggest, but the Rubber shares mentioned should be left alone pending further news.

£150 INVESTMENT.—NORTHERN.—You can easily gather this for yourself by bearing in mind that the higher the yield, the greater the risk, but in the case of Industrial and other semi-speculative concerns, it is not advisable to put all your eggs into one basket. Spread the money over two or three, and thus reduce the risk to a minimum. You might put some money, for instance, into a textile company, such as English Sewing Cottons.

PROFIT-SHARING BONDS.—ANGUS.—The statement made to you is correct, but there may be some way of obtaining some concession in a private way, and I will write you again.

SPECULATION.—V. T. (Clydach).—There is nothing to say against the man in question, and I have had no complaints, but I do not think this is the kind of thing which you should go into, as it is, after all, impossible to consider such a speculation safe, and you ought to keep your small resources.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—A. D. (Bournville).—You should not deal with this outside dealer, with regard to whom I have received repeated complaints. You should deal through a member of the Stock Exchange. NEW READER (Taunton).—It is a great pity that you have dealt with McKinley, Alexander and Sons, of Hampden House, Kingsway, London. Many others are in the same position as you, and cannot get their money, and I have repeatedly referred to this.

RUBBERS AND OILS.—MRS. M. C.—It has evidently been a case of buying in a hurry and repenting at leisure. There is no market for these shares, and, of course, no dividend is paid on them. I do not like the concern.

OILS, ETC.—J. A. M. A.—(1) You know the adage about distrusting the Greeks, even when they come with gifts in their hands. This applies to the offer in question, which I strongly advise you not to accept. (2) I advise dealing only with the leading institutions.

UTAH COLLIERIES.—A. T. A. B.—This is one of those concerns which believe in silence being golden. At any rate, there is not a trace of it, even in the usual books of reference, and, therefore, I am unable to help you in the matter. Of course, there is no market for the shares.

MRS. BULL SHARES.—PANNIE.—A full statement with regard to this matter was made at the recent meeting of shareholders of John Bull, Limited, which was fully reported in the financial papers and in JOHN BULL.

BAGSHAW BREWERY BOND.—H. B. (Brightlingsea).—You had better give me particulars of your bond. I shall then be able to advise you better.

HENRIQUEZ AND OTHER RUBBER SHARES.—J. P. (Leeds).—I am afraid that prospects of the Henriquez Estates are by no means brilliant, but you must be your own choice in the matter. As regards the other Company's reconstruction, the matter has not yet got so far as to be placed before the shareholders, and I will write further about it.

[A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—P. O. R. (Hill of Dowal).—(1). You should continue payments to the London and Provincial. We return their letter to you. (2). If you are a holder of Law Car and General Shares, fifteen shillings unpaid, you are, of course, liable for the call, and if you do not pay it proceedings will be taken against you.

NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—E. A. (Southampton).—We understand your dislike of letters like the one you have received from the Actuary and Manager, under date September 19, but you must bear in mind that this is a mutual Society, and that mutual offices find it very difficult to compete with their great rivals, and must keep themselves in evidence if they would not only preserve the membership they have but increase it. We should be very sorry to see the number of first-class mutual offices further lessened.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—C. N. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—We cannot see any reason why the assignment should not be binding, but before completing the transaction with your friend you should, of course, have complied with the formalities with the Company. As it is, you have merely their acknowledgment that they have received from you a notice of assignment. The better course would be to see the head office upon the matter, and have it put in order. F. O. F. (Onitsha, Southern Nigeria).—We do not think, in the circumstances, you need be under any apprehension. Our criticisms do not apply to the Ordinary branch. F. G. (Notts).—There is nothing in your letter to show that you were misled by the agent. S. F. (Kingston).—We note what you say about the special canvasser in Ireland. S. W. F. (Notts).—Have you any correspondence you can show us? A. W. N. (Margate).—The letter from the managers of the 8th September, seems to us to explain the position. The money will be paid to the executor. A SEAMAN (Aberdeen).—If you drop the premiums the policy will lapse. We are inclined to think that in this case it is the best thing to do. MRS. K. (Hull).—Unless you pay the premiums the policy will lapse, and you will have much more difficulty in recovering than might otherwise be the case. J. W. L. (East Dulwich).—Your letter does not disclose any ground for charging misrepresentation, and unless you can prove that you cannot recover. J. B. (Hornsey).—No. The policy is illegal, though it is just possible it will be paid upon maturity. If the facts are as you state them, the premiums are not recoverable. G. R. (Southampton).—You would have to prove misrepresentation. MEDO (Wigan).—The agent lied. W. R. H. (Southampton).—You should communicate with the Company with the object of having the irregularities you mention corrected. G. D. W.—We congratulate you upon having, through following our advice, obtained from the Company the whole of the premiums collected from you during the last seventeen years. A. B. (Leicester).—We congratulate you upon having followed our advice and taken action to recover the moneys paid to the Company. We notice that they have paid into Court the full amount of your demand, with your costs. M. J. S. (Studley).—The agent misinformed you. We return your policy and other enclosures. SHOTOVER (Bolton).—Unless there was an assignment, your father was within his rights. M. S. (Bournemouth).—The policies are illegal, and if you can prove the facts you state, you might recover. A. B. (Baldock).—You do not seem to have any claim for surrender value, and obviously if you do not keep up your premiums, the policy will lapse.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—E. F. (Old Trafford).—You tell us that you have been paying 8d. per week ever since 1888 to this Company, or in all nearly £40, that you asked the Company to grant you a cash surrender; they refused. You then asked them to grant you a loan: they refused; and so you have to allow the policy to drop, losing all the money you have paid. We are not surprised that you should think you have been hardly treated, but the Industrial policies issued by this Company do not carry a cash surrender value, and the Company does not profess to grant loans on the security of policies issued out of their Industrial branch. We are afraid you have no remedy, and that unless you continue to pay your premiums the policy will lapse, and you £40 will be gone. We return the policy and correspondence. E. S. (Liverpool).—The policy is illegal, but if you discontinue the payment of premiums, legal or not, it must lapse.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—C. H. (Canonbury).—They will treat you fairly. MERTON (Battle).—We do not like thirty-year bonds, but the Provident Association may be relied upon to carry out any contract into which they may enter.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—R. E. (Cardiff).—You say you insured your life with this Society on the distinct understanding that you would, at the end of the tontine period, be entitled to the option of:—(1) Taking £544 in cash; (2) retaining the policy and taking cash bonus £201; (3) taking paid-up policy for £655; (4) retaining policy and receiving annuity of £7 5s., or taking life annuity of £28 5s. The tontine period expired on September 1st, when the Society intimated that each one of these options would be less by one-half than you were given to understand, and on the promise of which you effected the insurance. In reply to your protest the manager admitted the difference between promise and performance, but added "that any such promise given 22 years in advance was not (and could not be) anything more than an estimate of results which it was hoped would be achieved." This is true enough, and should have prevented the use of the unqualified promises which misled you.

MATURITY OF POLICY.—DOWRIE (Port William).—You must obtain evidence of the death before the Company will pay.

STABILITY OF COMPANY.—ASSURED (Westbourne).—You need be under no apprehension. The Company is financially sound.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—ESSEX (Digsby).—The answer is in the negative. The shares are not quoted.

CLAIM FOR FIRE DAMAGE.—J. H. (Purley).—We assume that the people who stored your furniture made themselves responsible for fire risks, in which case they are, of course, answerable to you. You should insist upon their letting you know if they admit the liability or not, and if they do not, you should take your agreement to a solicitor and consult him on the subject.

THE W.C.A. AND AGENTS.—MACBETH (Southwell).—If the agent receives a salary from the Company, or an allowance for travelling, then probably he would be entitled to claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, otherwise, not.

ACT OF PARLIAMENT.—SETH.—We have never heard of the Act of Parliament, old or modern, which "gives any assured person of three years' standing the power to claim the return of a percentage of the premiums paid for assurance."

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—M. F. (March).—If the facts are as you state them you could recover, but we cannot speak positively without seeing the policy. If you like to send it to us, we will return it under cover. W. S. L. (Edinburgh).—Unless the policy on your mother's life was intended to cover funeral expenses it is not valid. As to the other policy, the premiums upon which you have stopped because you have been given a free policy for what you consider a fair sum, we must point out to you that whether fair or not you will lose what you have already paid if you do not keep up the premiums. W. R. J. (Portardularias).—We do not see why you should not go on paying the premiums. The financial position of this Company is sound. A. D. C. (Bury).—There can be no doubt about the policy being illegal. We return it under cover.

It is requested that all letters sent us relating to the validity of policies held in the Prudential be marked on the envelope "Prudential." Owing to the thousands of enquiries which have been received, some little delay in dealing with them is unavoidable, but every endeavour is being made to expedite answers.

The SECRET of SUCCESS

is to grasp the opportunity when it comes your way.

If you would become a rich man or woman listen to the advice which our many years of experience in making money for our clients entitles us to offer. It costs you nothing.

The infallible testimony of all lies in the fact that

The National Share Exchange

has paid to its clients in actual figures

£536,050

We have received numerous unsolicited testimonials from grateful clients all over the United Kingdom, every one of which is open for your inspection. Here is an **extract from a letter received only a few days ago:**

"After years of observation I must say your firm seems to be

THE ONLY SAFE ONE

OF ITS KIND

IN EXISTENCE."

Mark the conclusion that this client has come to after having close business relations with us for some years.

One would naturally ask How is this Wonderful Success Achieved? But the answer is quite simple—We are in touch with the leading centres of finance and our advance sources of information continue to prove invaluable to clients as our unique record clearly shows.

START TO-DAY TO MAKE MONEY

by following our tried and proved system. Are you anxious to make money? If so, don't forget that by following the best advice an opportunity will surely come whereby you will be able to realise your ambition to attain that glorious feeling of independence induced by Financial Success.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP

To The Secretary, **The National Share Exchange, Gt. Winchester St., E.C.**

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet. "The Modern System of Money Making," which is a clear explanation of the methods of business which has enabled your clients to receive over half-a-million pounds.

*NAME*_____
(State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss or Title.)

J.B. 7/10/11.

*ADDRESS IN FULL*_____

*DATE*_____ (Please write distinctly)

(This and all our advertisements are copyright.)

A boom is imminent in "NORTHERN TERRORS." We invite you to write or wire us when we will send you full particulars regarding same. Telegrams: "Natsharex, London."

No Promotion Money—No Underwriting Commission—No Vendors' Shares.

The New Northern Territory Explorers

LIMITED.

A Parent Company for the development of the mining resources of the Northern Territory of South Australia, and the formation of subsidiary companies to work proved gold and other mineral producing properties.

CAPITAL:

One Thousand Founders' Shares of £1 each; and One Hundred Thousand Profit-Sharing Bonds of £1 each.

The Bonds are entitled to be paid, in priority to the Founders' Shares, Interest at the rate of Five per Cent. per annum—ALL SURPLUS PROFITS BEING DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE FOUNDERS' SHARES AND THE BONDS.

Issue of One Hundred Thousand Profit-Sharing Bonds of £1 each at Par. Payable, 2s. 6d. per Bond on application; 7s. 6d. on allotment; 5s. on December 31st, 1911; and 5s. on March 31st, 1912.

The whole balance may be paid on allotment—interest and dividends being calculated from date of payment.

The Northern Territory Syndicate, Limited, who are the Promoters of this Company, in consideration of their defraying the whole of the expenses of and incidental to the formation and issue of the Bonds of the Company have the right to subscribe for and have allotted, at par, 993 Founders' Shares.

DIRECTORS

D. D. ROSEWARNE (late Government Inspector of Mines for South Australia), St. Blazey, Par, Cornwall. *Consulting Engineer.*
J. T. BINTLEY, Greenisland, Co. Antrim, Civil Engineer.
S. COOPER, 25-28, Beech Street, London, E.C., Merchant.
W. CORNISH, 5, Philip Lane, London, E.C., Merchant.

SECRETARY and OFFICES.—H. ROGERS, 52, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed to explore and develop the mineral resources of the Northern Territory of South Australia—believed to be the richest gold field in the world, and, according to expert and official reports, abounding in tin, copper, mica, wolfram and other materials—with a view to the formation from time to time, as circumstances and conditions may warrant, of subsidiary mining companies.

The Company will also avail itself of any favourable opportunities which may arise for acquiring an interest in some of the proved and producing mines of the Territory.

The Territory is traversed by an enormous auriferous belt, upon which many mines have been opened up, yielding remarkable results, but although immense quantities of gold have been won, the ground has not been more than "scratched," having been worked mainly by the Chinese, who rarely go below water level.

That the reefs continue at depth, however, is proved not only by the remarkable returns now being obtained from some of the working mines, but also by boring experiments carried out by the South Australian Government which disclosed rich gold at the 975 feet level, this being 600 feet deeper than any of the present workings.

The Territory, which comprises upwards of 530,000 square miles, or 340,000,000 acres, is administered under Letters Patent from the Imperial Government by South Australia, and immediately adjoins the Colony of Western Australia. Palmerston is the principal town, whilst there is a magnificent harbour at Port Darwin. There is a railway from Palmerston to Pine Creek, a distance of 150 miles, which cuts right through the principal gold district. The goldfield may be said to begin at 60 to 70 miles from Palmerston, and to extend—as far as is at present known—some 200 miles south, its breadth being 50 or 60 miles, so that it covers an area of from 10,000 to 12,000 square miles. Water and timber are abundant. The climate is tropical, but diseases and epidemics of a serious nature are practically unknown.

About fifteen years ago an English Company was formed to work some of the mines on a systematic, commercial basis. It was called the Northern Territories Gold Fields of Australia, Limited, and its capital was £300,000 in £1 shares. These were placed at £3 per share, and the price quickly rose several pounds more, the shares—which were known at "Northern Terrors"—becoming one of the most popular and active features of the London Stock Exchange. Many striking crushings were obtained from the Company's properties, but a "Bear" raid, coupled with lack of adequate control by the Board, and with the difficulties of a large financial corporation which was largely interested in the shares of the Company, brought the concern to grief. Since then, some of the mines in the Territory have remained derelict, whilst others have been worked in a more or less desultory way by various proprietors—several being let on tribute to Chinese miners. A few have been and are being systematically worked with excellent results.

Past Crushings.

The properties acquired by the old Northern Territories Company comprised nearly seven hundred acres, and were locally known as the Howley, Brock's Creek, Woolwonga, Eveleen (including the Eureka Mine), Yam Creek, and Lady Alice Union District Groups. They extended along a line of main reef for a distance of about ten miles, and had been worked in a spasmodic and unscientific manner by Chinese labour, the following being some of the results of crushings, as vouched for by official records:—

Howley Group.—Government reports showed the results of crushings of over 5,000 tons from this group. These crushings averaged 3 ounces per ton, whilst the following were the returns obtained from six crushings

taken from the 150 ft. level :—72 tons, 378 ozs. ; 119 tons, 402 ozs. ; 53 tons, 167 ozs. : 12 tons, 60 ozs. ; 44 tons, 265 ozs. ; 30 tons, 190 ozs.

BROCK'S CREEK GROUP.—A crushing of 10 tons from the Alligator Mine (on this property) gave the phenomenal result of 3,000 ozs. ; whilst a large crushing of 6,000 tons realised 17,000 ozs. of gold.

WOOLWONGA GROUP.—A crushing of 4,300 tons of only surface ore yielded 3,600 ozs.

EVELEEN GROUP.—A crushing of 1,200 tons from the main shaft yielded 3,300 ozs.

YAM CREEK GROUP.—A crushing of 250 tons, yielded 600 ozs.

LADY ALICE UNION GROUP.—A crushing of 180 tons yielded 630 ozs. and another crushing yielded 4½ ozs. to the ton.

All the above crushings were independent of the gold left in the tailings.

The following crushings were also recorded from other mines :—

ELEANOR MINE : 16,000 tons, averaged 1¼ ozs. of gold to the ton, all above the 150 ft. level, and irrespective of tailings.

UNION MINE : 350 tons yielded 5 ozs. to the ton, a crushing of 10 tons yielding 783 ozs.

GREAT NORTHERN MINE : 1,250 tons yielded 2,750 ozs.

A few years ago, a group of mines, originally held by the old Joint Stock Trust and its allied companies, was acquired, at a break-up price, by Mr. William Carter, who, whilst distributing some of them to Chinese miners, expended considerable capital in development work. The following cablegram, dated September 15th, 1911, is further testimony to the mineral wealth of the Territory :—

"Under Carter's management the following is the "result, workings Pine Creek : Present depth is 170 ft. "Crushed 3,900 tons for 6,400 ozs. gold. Crushed "this month 430 tons for 987 ozs. gold ; 38 tons "yielded 354 ozs. gold. Cyanide process, three "months' treatment, 1,800 tons, 443 ozs. gold.

"Mounts Diamond and Davis (copper) mining "properties yielded £13,000. Depth of shaft is "200 ft. Have driven upon the vein a distance of "550 ft., average assay of ore is 13 per cent."

Whilst in a cable dated 17th September, 1911, Mr. Carter's manager says :—

"Crushed 438 tons for 1,000 ounces."

OFFICIAL AND EXPERT TESTIMONY TO THE WEALTH OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

Lord Kintore (when Governor of South Australia) said that the existence of rich mines in the Northern Territory had "been common knowledge for some time past," and that "it had been a matter of surprise that no systematic attempt had been made to open up this wealth, the claims taken up having been at best only superficially scratched."

Mr. J. V. Parkes, the Government Inspector of Mines for South Australia, in an Official Report, said :—"I feel constrained to say, and I have no hesitation in saying it, that the Northern Territory is phenominally rich in minerals, but more especially gold and tin, and I feel assured that in the course of time *it will become one of the chief producers of these two metals.* A careful perusal of the returns I have made of the yield from the various mines, will, I am convinced, be a surprise even to those who had previously had a good opinion of the gold-producing capabilities of the country, and when better facilities are afforded to the mining investors for visiting the country, and systematic mining is carried on, and efficient appliances are introduced for treating the ores, I am positive that my expectations will be fully realised. The reefs are all indicative of permanency."

The Hon. Charles Dashwood, Government Resident of the Northern Territory, in an Official Report to the South Australian Government, says that, according to reports furnished to him, some of the claims "have produced astonishing results ; . . . I consider them most valuable properties with proper management. . . . The lode has been proved to a depth of 200 ft., average 6 ozs. The opinion of all who have visited the mines is that the geological formation is permanent. The gold-bearing vein can be traced for a long distance, *richer as depth is attained.*"

Mr. Tenison Woods, late Government Geologist of South Australia, reported : "The quartz lodes for variety and extent have few parallels in any country. It would take too long to specify the number of reefs which crop out on every side in this extraordinary mineral country. One can hardly speak too highly of it. *Some day these deposits must yield up their treasures !* . . . I confidently assert that the Northern Territory is exceptionally rich in minerals, *only a small portion of which has been made known to the public.* I do not believe that the same quantity of mineral veins of gold, silver, tin, copper, and lead, will be found in any equal area in Australia In fact, *I doubt if many provinces will be found in any country so singularly and exceptionally favoured as Arnheim's land is in respect to mineral riches.*"

Captain Daniels, Mining Engineer, who has been resident in the Northern Territory for twenty-five years, and has during the whole of that period been actively engaged in mining, says : "I am acquainted with the whole history of these mines, and it has been a matter of notoriety throughout the Territory that for years past very rich stone has been raised which has yielded returns of 2 ozs. to 7 ozs. per ton, and with modern machinery would have yielded greatly increased returns. . . . The permanency of the gold-bearing formation has been proved over an area sufficient to keep a large mill fully employed for many years to come. . . . ."

Mr. D. D. Rosewarne, late Inspector of Mines to the Government of South Australia reiterates his view as to the phenomenal mineral wealth of the territory and says that given a straight run he pledges himself to justify the expectations which were held out a few years ago.

The Company is not bound to any financial commitments or obligations, and the whole of its subscribed capital will be absolutely free and available for the exploration, development or purchase of mineral rights or properties, or of share or other interests therein.

The only contract entered into is one dated October 2nd, 1911, made between the Northern Territory Syndicate, Limited, of the one part, and Herbert Rogers, as Trustee for this Company, of the other part, under which, in consideration of the Syndicate paying the whole expenses of the formation of the Company and of this issue and of agreeing to give the Company the first offer of any of its rights in the Northern Territory and of other services, the Company agrees to grant to the Syndicate or its nominees the right to subscribe within a given period for 993 Founders' Shares at par.

Full Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained at the Offices of the Company. Application may also be made, through the issuing Syndicate, on the subjoined Form. Any over-payment on application will be returned in full.

APPLICATION FORM.

To the NORTHERN TERRITORY SYNDICATE, LIMITED,
52, NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

I hereby apply to you for _____ Profit Sharing Bonds of £1 each in the New Northern Territory Explorers Limited, on the terms of the Prospectus, dated October 5th, 1911.

Name _____

Address _____

Description _____

THE CHILD SLAVES OF YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE.—IV.

By Our Provincial Commissioner.

EFFECT OF THE SYSTEM—PHYSICAL DEGENERATES SUGGESTED REFORMS—THE TRUE REMEDY.

EFFECT OF THE SYSTEM.

The effect of this pernicious system naturally shows more upon the children who are inclined, through home environment, to become degenerates, but the result reaches beyond them. The conditions of factory life and work are destructive to the physique and mentality of the best constitutions, but taken in conjunction with the fact that a great number of children cannot hope to attain proper development on account of surrounding circumstances over which they have no control, they become positively appalling.

PHYSICAL DEGENERATES.

Boys, up to the age of fifteen or sixteen, are employed at this work, and can up to that period command work and wages. Starting at twelve, they have, by that time, served almost what can be called an apprenticeship. They have acquired a deftness that ought to have its market value, but it has no such thing. They have simply been moiling and toiling at what can be best described as a blind-alley job, for at that age they are not wanted any more. They begin to want more wages than the employers feel disposed to give, therefore off they go, and their places are taken by new-comers. Thrown now up the labour scrap-heap, there is nothing left for them to do but become unskilled labourers. It has been estimated that no less than 90 per cent. of boys who take up the work are thus cast off. They have lost a good part of their schooling when they are at the most retentive age, and therefore cannot compete with others who have been fortunate enough to avoid falling under the curse of the cheap sweater. What these human derelicts are worth physically can best be judged from the reports given by the Recruiting Officers, who say there is not one candidate in twenty who submit themselves for enlistment that has a reasonable chance of being accepted. Yet these very self-same individuals, only two or three years before, were passed by a medical man as being fitted to take their place in the world of labour! I say emphatically that they are *not* fit and *never were*, but that, owing to laxness, inspection has been scamped over. It was actually suggested to me that one of the reasons why such children get through is that the medical inspector, in a fit of sympathy, passes those whom he knows to be absolutely unfitted—with some such idea in his mind as "Poor child, perhaps, if I pass you, you may get a bit more to eat." I really think that often there must be some such reason, but this only aggravates the evil, for they really get less, and have to work.

SUGGESTED REFORMS.

There have been several suggestions put forward in the way of reform. One is the institution of Night Continuation classes, to enable them to keep up with those who go full time to school. This is simply ridiculous, and would not be entertained for a moment by any sane being, except, of course, those whose pockets it affects. Another, and perhaps a better one, is that there should be special classes in the schools for the half-timers, to enable them to be separately taught. This simply means extra work for the schools, more space, increased staffs and, of course, increase in expense. And when all this had been accomplished (if adopted) the half-timer would still be there, and the whole thing not one whit better; the contracted precocity and the ruined constitutions would still exist.

THE TRUE REMEDY.

No; there can be one only efficient remedy, and that is to do away with the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel. Make the regulations which apply to other parts of the Kingdom operative in these districts, and let no child go into a mill or any other kindred workplace under fourteen years of age. One well-known mill-owner suggests a rather novel remedy. He says: "If every man who employs half-timers would attend at his mill for three winter months at 6 a.m., *without missing*, the sight of the weary little half-timer crawling to work through the dreary darkness, breakfastless, ill-clothed, and wet-stockinged, would work the conversion of anybody who has the least claim to being human, and would end the whole system."

JOHN BULL'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT SCHEME.

Valuable and Seasonable Gifts to our Readers.

Christmas is coming once more, and in accordance with our usual custom, we propose to distribute a large number of presents amongst our readers, asking them in return to make a special effort to increase further our already gigantic circulation.

The presents will comprise:—

£5 NOTES, POSTAL ORDERS, WATCHES, CLOCKS, TRAVELLING AND DRESSING BAGS, WORK BOXES, BICYCLES, UMBRELLAS, WALKING STICKS, PIPES, CIGARS & CIGAR CASES, CASES OF WINES AND SPIRITS, TURKEYS, GEESE, PLUM PUDDINGS, CRACKERS, CUTLERY, GLASS, GAMES, BOOKS.

And a variety of other useful articles.

We wish we were in a position to give every reader something, but that being impracticable, the principle of allotment of the prizes will be the selection of the five hundred readers who, between now and December 20th next, in our opinion do the best work to increase our sales. There are many ways in which this can be done without involving any inconvenience or interference with ordinary work or occupations. Readers may pass their copies on to friends; they may buy an extra copy each and forward it to a relative or acquaintance in the country or abroad, with a recommendation of its merits; they may discuss its contents in the office, the workshop, the train and the tram; they may leave copies about wherever they go—in short, there is no limit to the things which may be done to attract attention to us.

All readers have to do is to fill up the coupon which will be found on page 488, when their names will be duly registered. Then, at any time up to, but not later than, December 13th, they should send us reports of the efforts they are making on our behalf. Mark all envelopes containing coupons or reports with the word "Christmas" in the top left-hand corner.

THE REASON MADE EVIDENT:

An Appreciation with some notes upon the long run of success Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have earned.

There is a candour about the press announcements of the cures effected by Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, somewhat refreshing in these days of drugs innumerable, which are supposed to bestow benefit in some mysterious way never explained or understood.

The observant reader will have noticed that in the many cures published only one thing is claimed for Dr. Williams' pink pills, and it is clear that they do that one thing well.

Now the one thing that Dr. Williams' pink pills do well is to build up the blood to its proper strength, and so assist it to throw off a host of ailments that begin in faulty blood. These pills contain the elements that go to purify and strengthen weak blood. By this restorative action the new blood strengthens flabby muscles, fortifies tired nerves, renders the stomach able to digest food, and makes good the waste caused by overwork and anxiety.

A personal experience has been supplied by Mr. Ernest Pattison Graham, an accomplished musician, whose private address is 77, Newtown, Whitehaven, Cumberland. He states:

"That I am well and strong to-day is solely due to Dr. Williams' pink pills. As the result of overwork I became very weak, and suffered from palpitations. Frequently I turned dizzy and faint, while a dull heavy feeling persistently troubled me across my forehead. A doctor said that my trouble was Nervous Debility. I kept on taking medicine, but felt no better. At length I had to suspend work.

"Reading one day that an obstinate case of Neurasthenia had been cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I sent for a supply.

"As I took the pills my nerves became calm and the palpitations were not so distressing. The fainting seizures became less frequent, and as I persevered I steadily got stronger. In length all signs of Weakness and Debility passed away. I am now able to pursue my professional duties with the splendid health given me by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

To JOHN BULL readers who suffer from any of the following ailments: (1) "Diseases of the Blood," (2) Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Wh[illegible] Dr. Williams' Pink Pills [illegible] substitute, which is [illegible] insist on having the genuine.

A HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY

By ROBERT FREKE GOULD,

Barrister-at-law, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England.

This great work, of which a new issue is now appearing, is an exhaustive study of everything relating to Freemasonry, its antiquities, symbols, constitutions, customs, and history; it includes a full investigation of the authentic records of the fraternity all over the world.

It is therefore a treasury of information on a subject on which expert and reliable information has hitherto been almost inaccessible.

But "The History of Freemasonry," apart from its value as a reliable work treating of all historical and practical information relating to the Craft, is a book of the most fascinating interest, and one which will be read again and again by every Mason who wishes to keep in touch with the glorious records of his Society, as well as by the large class of general readers, to whom out-of-the-way information on a subject that is confessedly invested with mystery always appeals.

The magnificent illustrations include 36 fine coloured plates, illustrating Masonic clothing and regalia, high-class etched frontispieces, and fine engravings of Masonic Marks, Medals, and Plates of Arms.

Its All-round Excellence.

Whether we consider this beautiful edition of "The History of Freemasonry" from the point of view of its fulness of detail, the interesting and even fascinating nature of its treatment, its wealth of illustration, its excellence as to type, paper, and handsome binding, there is no doubt that the work is really worthy of a great and important body that has not hitherto received its fair share of consideration at the hands of the historian.

Two Opinions.

The Right Hon. THOMAS F. HALSEY (Deputy Grand Master):

"I must congratulate you on the way the work is got up, which I think most admirable. It will be a most valuable book of reference and study to all who take an interest in the craft."

Sir EDWARD LETCHWORTH (Grand Secretary):

"A decided improvement on previous issues, and I hope you will have a good sale for it."

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THE MODERN PHYSICIAN.

By Dr. ANDREW WILSON.

A work that justifies its claim to be a complete guide to the attainment and preservation of health as well as a practical teacher of the nature and symptoms of all diseases—is a work to be hailed as a household friend. Such a book is "The Modern Physician," by Dr. Andrew Wilson.

The section devoted to Hygiene, otherwise known as Preventive Medicine, includes the full exposition of the laws of health, and special attention is devoted to physical culture. The important subject of First Aid and

Ambulance Work

is fully treated and lavishly illustrated.

Descriptions of every part of the frame will be found in "The Modern Physician," the skeleton, muscles, digestive system, heart and lungs, brain and nervous system, organs of sense, skin, kidneys, etc., etc., being fully explained and illustrated.

In this connection the coloured "mannikins" or "dummies," in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

The section devoted to "The Family Medicine Chest" gives the description, uses and doses of drugs, used as drops, lotions, ointments and gargles.

The Health of Women.

Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

There is a section devoted to Invalid Cookery, and a complete series of physicians' prescriptions will be found both reliable and useful.

The Book for the Home.

It is safe to say that in a large household embracing human items of every age or sex, the point of doubt or difficulty, the unexpected accident or emergency, could not arise that could not be immediately and satisfactorily dealt with with this splendidly practical work at hand.

Mr. WM. WEBB, 102, Queensland Street, Liverpool, writes:

"'The Modern Physician' ought to be in every household in the land, and it is certainly no fault of yours should it not be so, for the price at which it is published is reasonable, and the terms of subscription exceptionally easy."

Mr. A. H. HART, 18, Canbury Park Road, Kingston-on-Thames:

"Three things especially impressed me: the up-to-date character of the work; the simplicity of the language used; and its practical value. It is creditable alike to Editor and Publisher."

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The selection of the Best Novels of Balzac has been placed in the hands of Mr. Clement Shorter, the Editor of the *Sphere*, and an acknowledged authority on the subject. Mr. Shorter selected the following as being in his opinion the best of Balzac's novels:—

Cousine Bette,	Eugenie Grandet,
Cousin Pons,	The Lily of the Valley,
La Duchesse de Langeais,	The Illustrious Gaudissart,
The House of the Cat and Racket,	The Village Curé,
Gobseck,	The Country Doctor,
Old Goriot,	The Magic Skin,

The Unknown Masterpiece.

But some of these are short, and as some of them have been, though they are complete in themselves, written in correlation to other novels, it has been thought well to add to the thirteen selected by Mr. Shorter a few of the other novels of Balzac's. Each one of these possesses distinctive excellencies, and the Balzacian who is most jealous of his author's fame would not willingly have left one out.

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ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M.

Here,
By Shakespeare's syde,
Crumbles ye corpse
Of

Hall Caine,

Man's most famous man.
Born Anno Domini 1853.
Hee evinced such a lykynge
For ye makyng of mudde pies
Thatte hys doatynge parents
Thought to make of hym
An Architect.
However,
He declyned to practyse hys profession,
Butte did nott hesitate to write glyblie on ye subject
Thereof
In ye trade papers
(As is ye waie of theorists).
Hys next step on ye downwarde path
Was
To become a journalyst,
Followynge thatt iniquitous trade
Until Anno Domini 1885,
When hee sank yette lower in ye literarie scale
By publyshynge a sensational novelle
Entytled
YE SHADOWE OF A CRYME.
Ye mental effort thus entayled
Havynge caused hys cranium to swelle,
Hys eyes to bulge,
And hys hair to retreat from off hys forehead,
Hee,
Lookynge in hys mirrour one daie
(For ye wyche ackt of courage hee is to bee commended),
Deluded hymself wyth ye belief
Thatte hee bore a strykynge facial resemblance
To
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.
From thys tyme forwarde there was no holdynge hym.
In rapid succession
Hee turned out novelle after novelle,
Hys onlie serious competitor in ye realm of
Melodramatick fiction, whyche hee sought to make hys own,
Beynge
Marie Corelli.
Lyke her, hee was an adept atte self-advertysement,
Achievynge so much success in thys direction
That hee came to bee called
YE BOOMSTER.
Meanwhyle
Hee hadde alsoe become
A playwrighte,
And,
Incidentallie,
A contributor to ye *Dalie Telegraphe*,
In whose columns
Hee tooke ye wynde out of ye criticks' sails
By criticisynge hys own bookes and plaies,
Notte, bee itt noted, unfavourablie.
Ye Isle of Man
Havynge benefited from hys advertysnge campaigne,
He was made a J.P.
And eleckted by hys grateful compatriots to a seat
Inn ye House of Keys,
Whereat ye Manx cattes
Wagged theyre tailes for joie!

Here lies ye bodie of Hall Caine,
Hys pen is now atte leisure,
We shalle notte see hys lyke again—
A thought thatte gives us pleasure.
Yette stille we've reason to be sadde,
Though Death's colde bondes now bind hym;
He's dead, 'tis true; butte stille, by Gadde,
He's left hys bookes behynde hym!

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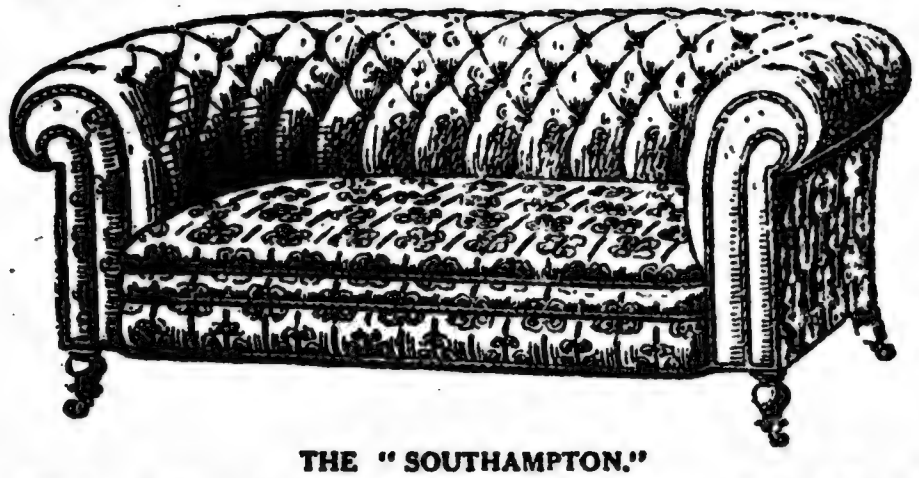

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THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

"The Marionettes."

Pierre Wolff's plays are invariably interesting! They are so full of thought, so marvellously true to life, so sincere in their exquisite humanity, so faithful to the observances of nature. Pierre Wolff leads you into gardens of roses, hedged with rue, but in order to drink in the intoxicating scent of the one, you have to encounter and break through the bitter barrier of the other. "The Marionettes," done into English by Miss Gladys Unger, was a huge success at the Comedie Française last year in Paris, where it was played with Feraudy, George Grand, Alexandre, Mesdames Piérat and Gabrielle Robinne in the principal characters. At the Comedy Theatre these parts are acted respectively by John Hare, Arthur Wontner, Godfrey Tearle, Marie Löhr and Beatrice Beckley. Of the company engaged over here let us take, first of all, Marie Löhr, who is rapidly losing her little school girl mannerisms, and will doubtless develop into a very good actress when she has completely forgotten her copybook days. Miss Löhr has as yet done nothing better than the Marquise de Moneiars, with her prim, austere mien, in Act I., and her "change of front" in the rest of the play to the daringly gowned, pleasure-loving lady, idolised and flattered by every man. Sitting in the shadow of a box at the Comedy the other evening, however, the scene on the stage seemed to melt into one that was vividly impressed on my youthful mind, and again I saw Marie Bancroft in Tom Taylor's "Unequal Match" and recalled the inimitable sway this twinkling-eyed, mischievous atom of a woman had over her audience. I don't remember whether Sir John Hare was in the Prince of Wales' Company at this time, but I am sure "The Marionettes" must conjure up visions of days gone by to his memory, it is so very like in form and fancy to "The Unequal Match"—a play which would have suited Marie Tempest like a glove.

But let it at once be said that Pierre Wolff's comedy grips you instantly! It fairly captivates your senses—it appeals to all your emotional faculties—the story is simplicity itself, and human to the very core. Not one false note stirs the perfect harmony of "The Marionettes"—and yet Pierre Wolff, who has such a firm belief in getting fitting titles for his plays, and, furthermore, confesses that he tried fifty-three names before he arrived at this one—proves that we, like marionettes, are controlled by strings, and, by the pulling of these strings, our limbs, our minds—nay, even our very souls—are made to work. But M. Wolff does more than prove this! The playwright teaches us that without sorrow, without suffering, without enduring pain, we cannot understand the joy, the happiness, the greatness, and the beauty of love in its most glorious sense as existing between man and woman. M. Wolff showed us this picture, too, in "The Lily," not in mere daubs of flagrant sentimentality, but in colours that blended to perfection. Sir John Hare naturally plays the part of de Ferney in a very different way to the broader and larger methods of Feraudy, but, nevertheless, he makes of de Ferney a most lovable character. This remarkable play, in which pure love wins and ignoble passion gets kicked into the byeways, cannot fail to delight every student of life and character. I hope to see it many and many a time again.

Man and Superman.

The ease and naturalness with which Robert Loraine rattles off the brilliant epigrams and lengthy speeches in Bernard Shaw's satirical comedy are miracles of artistic skill. Every word is as clear as a bell, every sentence receives its correct emphasis—I have never heard anything like it since the days when Charles Wyndham was in his prime, and to go to the Criterion meant an evening spent revelling in the society of London's finest comedian. Mr. Loraine is following in Sir Charles Wyndham's footsteps, and I shouldn't be in the least surprised to hear that Loraine intended to revive some of the "chief's" biggest successes. It was a mistake to cast Pauline Chase for the part of Ann Whitefield—Ann was a creature of determination, and led her poor old mother an awful dance. Pauline Chase, with her colourless performance, is quite the wrong actress for so deliberate and "firm of purpose" a being. Mr. Edmund Gwenn once again shows of what splendid material he is made, and Miss Doris Lytton is magnificently defiant as Violet Robinson. Why not have let this clever young lady play Ann? No one could play Mrs. Whitefield better than Miss Florence Haydon does; it is a gem in its way—so is the Hector Malone of Mr. Guy Standing. The Criterion Theatre is crammed to suffocation every evening, and no wonder; Robert Loraine's "John Tanner" is a masterpiece.

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JOHN BULL LEAGUE DAY.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CRYSTAL PALACE TO-DAY (SATURDAY).

Everything is now in order in connection with the above. Summarised, the following are the arrangements:—In addition to the attractions to be found in the Palace itself, the beautiful grounds and the countless side-shows, we have arranged for a special exhibition of swimming by T. W. Burgess, the "Conqueror of the Channel," in the swimming lake, at 4 p.m., when spectators will see the manner in which he prepared for his great feat, how he was fed in progress, etc. Following this display, Mr. Burgess will be presented with the JOHN BULL Cup and cheque for £100 by the President, on behalf of the proprietors of this journal. A move will then be made to the sports ground, where Mr. G. A. Olley, the famous amateur champion cyclist, will make what we have reason to believe will be a successful attempt on the 20-mile cycle record, in which he will have the assistance, as pacer, of Mr. Harry Tate, the well-known sketch artiste, on a motor cycle. Mr. Tate is so well known in burlesque of motoring and other popular pastimes, that a serious exhibition by him must be of interest. Should Mr. Olley be successful, he will be awarded a silver cup offered by Mr. Cyril Michael, of the Midland Furnishing Company.

The numerous district chairmen and secretaries who will be coming up from all parts of the country as delegates from their respective branches, will attend a conference at the invitation of the President, and during the past few days the various local committees have met and considered the matters to be brought up for discussion on this occasion.

By this time crowds will be thronging all roads leading to the Centre Transept of the Palace, admission to which will be obtained at 6.30, at which hour Dr. Hermann Brearley will commence a short recital on the Grand Organ. The Crystal Palace Band will give a selection of music, including the new "John Bull" March, composed by Dr. Brearley, and at 7.30 precisely, the President will take the chair. Mr. Stewart Gardner, who has already scored several successes, will once more be heard in the League Songs, and then the President will commence what we have every reason to believe will be a most important speech. We take this, the last opportunity, of urging all members of the League and the readers of JOHN BULL to lend him their support on this occasion.

JOHN BULL LEAGUE DAY.

FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE, CRYSTAL PALACE, OCTOBER 7th.

On surrender of this Voucher at the Booking Office of any of the Stations named hereunder a third-class return ticket to the Crystal Palace, including admission, will be issued on payment of One Shilling. Children under 12 years, half price.

S.E. & C.R. STATIONS.

Victoria, Grosvenor Road, Battersea Park Road, Holborn Viaduct, Ludgate Hill, St. Pauls, Snow Hill, Loughborough Junction, Wandsworth Road, Clapham Road, Brixton, Camberwell, Walworth Road, Elephant and Castle, Denmark Hill, Peckham Rye, Brockley Lane, Honor Oak, Bromley South, Shortlands, Beckenham Junction, Nunhead, Lordship Lane, Upper Sydenham, Crofton Park, Catford, Bellingham, Beckenham Hill, Ravensbourne, Lewisham Road, Blackheath Hill, Greenwich Park.

L.B. & S.C.R. STATIONS.

Victoria, London Bridge, Balham, Battersea Park, Brockley, Carshalton, Clapham Junction, Clapham Road, East Croydon, West Croydon, South Croydon, Denmark Hill, Deptford Road, East Brixton, Honor Oak Park, New Cross, Norbury, Norwood Junction, Old Kent Road, Peckham Rye, Queen's Road, Rotherhithe, Selhurst, Shadwell, Shoreditch, Streatham Common, Sutton, Thornton Heath, Wallington, Wandsworth Common, Wandsworth Road, Wapping, Whitechapel.

This Voucher must be detached and surrendered at the Station Booking Office.

To be torn off on this line.

JOHN BULL LEAGUE DAY, FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE, CRYSTAL PALACE.

This part of the Coupon is to be given up at the Crystal Palace Turnstiles and, in exchange, the bearer will receive Vouchers entitling him at the reduced prices to admission to Side Shows.

HERBERT W. MATTHEWS,
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Those who do not travel by train should present this coupon intact at the entrance to the Palace, and will be entitled to admission at Half-price, viz., 6d.

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Because you have wasted your money on poisonous medicines, patent or otherwise, and found that they could not help you, is no reason why our method should prove a failure. We can show you people who have doctored and drugged and experimented with various treatments for years who were restored to perfect health by using the "Ajax" Body Battery for a short time.

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The "Ajax" Battery is a scientific device for saturating the human body with a steady, unbroken current of electric life, without the least shock. When your body has sufficient electric energy to satisfy the demands of Nature, weakness and disease cannot exist. This battery makes its own power, and there is nothing to do but to adjust it properly and turn on the current.

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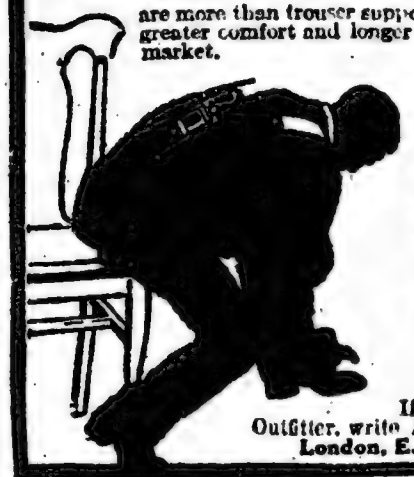

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The cord action automatically adjusts itself instantaneously with every motion. (See illustration).

None but the best quality material is put in the SHIRLEY PRESIDENT BRACE. This, with no strain on buttons and shoulders, gives them a wearing period three times as long as that of any other brace.

Every pair has the manufacturer's signed Guarantee. *"Satisfaction, New Pair or Money Back"* Be sure to obtain the genuine which have "Shirley President" on the Buckles.

Per 2/6 Pair
Of all Hosiers and Outfitters.

If any difficulty in obtaining from your Outfitter, write **A. Merchant & Co., 7, Fore St., London, E.C.,** who supply the wholesale.

The Konak

SELECTED BRIARS

Best Vulcanite Mouthpiece scientifically constructed to minimise the pressure upon the teeth.

This unique design, made in all the favourite patterns, ensures a thoroughly cool and comfortable smoke

The general excellence of this pipe will delight even the most discriminating smoker.

Price **2/6** each.
(Silver mounted)

Of all Tobacconists and Stores.

IF WHY PAY SHOP PRICES?

BEDSTEADS

Newest patterns in Metal and Wood of every description. Bedding, Wire Mattresses, Cots, Chair Beds, &c. Furniture - Bedrooms and General. *All goods sent direct from factory to home, saving middle profits.* Send post-card to-day for Illustrated Price Lists (post free). I allow discount for cash, or supply goods payable in monthly instalments, or in any way that will suit you. Established 22 years. **CHARLES RILEY, (Desk B), MOOR ST., BIRMINGHAM.**

Please mention JOHN BULL when writing for lists.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation :—
Has the time come for Turkey to be "cut up"?
May not Italy find that the accent is on the "Trip"?
Shouldn't the French Navy let "Powder B" be, for the future?
Is Ulster the only "exception" to Home Rule?
Isn't "Pat-riots" how they put it in Ireland?
Is "promotion by mistake" in the Army confined to non-commissioned officers?

A hundred and fifty Staffordshire barbers have decided to abolish the penny shave. We consider it a "cut" price ourselves.

"Tube as health resort," we read. Everyone wants a lift up after being run down.

Owing to the recent heat wave, Mont Blanc's summit is considerably less. Not the only ice that has been lowered.

A vicar recently rowed the Channel. The curates are always in Straits.

"What to wear at the Durbar," says an article. Judging by the latest reports, it will be a worried look.

"The Hope" at Drury Lane is certainly being full-filled.

A looter, charged at Tredegar, said he wanted a clock, but could only get a barometer. Now he has both—Time—Very Dry.

According to Lord Rosebery, the more Scotland is neglected the more she thrives. So do many other things.

A bachelor has left an endowment for an annual prize of £25 to the man who weds the ugliest woman. The reward isn't handsome enough.

"King Manuel's bid for his lost throne," says a paper. But it was knocked down some time ago.

In a new German play, a dog plays the leading part. In answer to a "call," we presume, he "bow-wows."

A new oil will not explode, though it is hoped it will "go off" well.

"As a rule it is wise of wives to submit to their husbands," says Mr. Plowden. But so many wives want to "prove" the rule.

A major in the 2nd Life Guards has been called to the Bar. Just the man to fight an action.

"Fans for Paupers," says a heading. To enable them to "raise the wind," of course.

The law just passed in Kansas making tickling illegal is, in itself, enough to tickle anyone.

"It is a hard world for odd jobbers," says G. S. Street. Yes, some can but make a "bear" living.

"Idleness has no advocate," says J. Tillinghast. But many an advocate has idleness.

Dr. Cook, who is the principal character in a new Danish musical comedy, can at least boast that someone is now "taking his part."

A number of silk shawls have been stolen during worship from a Jewish synagogue. An unbeliever was also preying.

The Beccles labourer who has been sentenced to a month for stealing three eggs now considers them an overrated article of diet.

A Georgia couple possess a two-year-old baby weighing 110 pounds. He will be difficult to "raise."

Two Kansas City men have been fined for praying so loudly as to disturb their neighbours. Their prayers were heard.

The world's champion melon eater died after eating his 7th in a contest. A meloncholy end.

The New York beggar carrying the sign "I need bread," who was found to have £64 upon him, should have been satisfied; he had the "dough."

The Brentford woman who wanted a summons against her husband because he sang loudly every morning, evidently objected to his larky ways.

"Red Eve," is the name of a new book. Of course, it was Adam who looked blue.

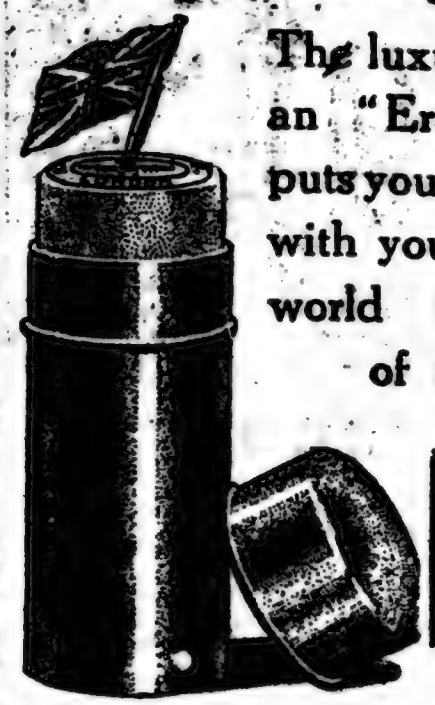
Prisoners in a Chicago gaol are now permitted to go out and fish all day. They will take their hook.

"Dancing in the Parks," reads a morning paper heading. From what we have seen, most couples prefer to sit it out.

The bellringers of Hastings parish church are on strike and, in consequence, the bells are not.

READERS OF JOHN BULL, *Mrs. Bull*, and *Lotinga's Weekly* in country or remote districts in which there are no news-agents, and who would be willing to become local sales agents for these papers, are invited to apply for particulars to Circulation Manager, JOHN BULL Offices, 93-94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The Morning Shave.



The luxurious ease of an "Erasmic" shave puts you on good terms with yourself and the world for the rest of the day.

Why buy foreign Shaving Soaps when "Erasmic" is British *and* Best.

TRIAL SAMPLE 2d Stamps. Money back if not satisfied. The Erasmic Co. Ltd., (Dept. K), Warrington.

"Erasmic" SHAVING STICK

Scan the crowds of busy men who centre about the Royal Exchange, and you will notice that the typical City man is wearing a point collar.

The Business man knows it is the correct collar to wear with a Morning or Frock Coat suit.

"Summit" 24 has slightly drooping points, and not too wide a space between them. Made from 'Summit' shrunk materials, they do not stretch or shrink, and this fact ensures the collar retaining its distinctive shape, ated visits to the laundry.

We stock ... depths, 2, 2½ and 2¾ in., and in Quart... o the inch—from 14 to 18 inches.

Sample c... for 3/-
6½d. po... chill Square, E.C.
Address

Au...
113, REGE...
157, CHEA...

...eed Ltd
CHURCH ST. E.C.
MARY AXE, E.C.

SORE THROAT:

Its Cause and Cure.

Few ailments are more painful and annoying than sore throat, which is so prevalent just now.

This complaint always means that the sufferer has inhaled germs—particles of vegetable life so extremely minute that, when seen through the microscope, they look like little specks, as shown in the above disc.

The quickest and most thorough way of killing these germs is to suck a few Formamint tablets. The pain and swelling rapidly diminish, the mouth and throat feel thoroughly clean and refreshed, and in a short time the sore throat is cured.

Test this for yourself by writing at once for a free supply of Formamint. It is just as effective, too, as a *preventive* of sore throat and of much more dangerous epidemic diseases like Diphtheria, Consumption of the Lungs, Scarlet Fever and Measles.

Praised by 7,000 Physicians.

Wulfing's Formamint Tablets are held in the highest esteem by medical men. For instance, a physician writes in *The Practitioner* "I have never had sore throat myself since I began to use Formamint although I suffered periodically before."

Again, Dr. Andrew Wilson, the well-known medical author, gives this advice to sore throat sufferers: "Allow one Formamint Tablet to dissolve in the mouth four or five times daily. Formamint is a soothing application, and has high disinfecting qualities which render it a very valuable remedy in all throat and mouth troubles."

Formamint is habitually used by well-known people like the Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, M.P., Lord Justice Buckley, Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P. To take only a few examples: Lord Glantawe writes: "I have been using Formamint for sore throat with most satisfactory results." Madame Adelina Patti writes: "I find Formamint Tablets very beneficial for the throat."

Why not follow the example of these eminent people? Send the coupon to-day for a free sample of Formamint; you can buy it afterwards at any chemists, price 1s. 11d. per bottle. But remember to specify Wulfing's Formamint, because that is the only genuine preparation, though there are many worthless imitations.

FREE SAMPLE.

Messrs. A. Wulfing & Co., 12, Chenies Street, London, W.C.—Please send me a sample of Formamint, which I have not yet tried. I enclose two penny stamps for postage.

Name .....

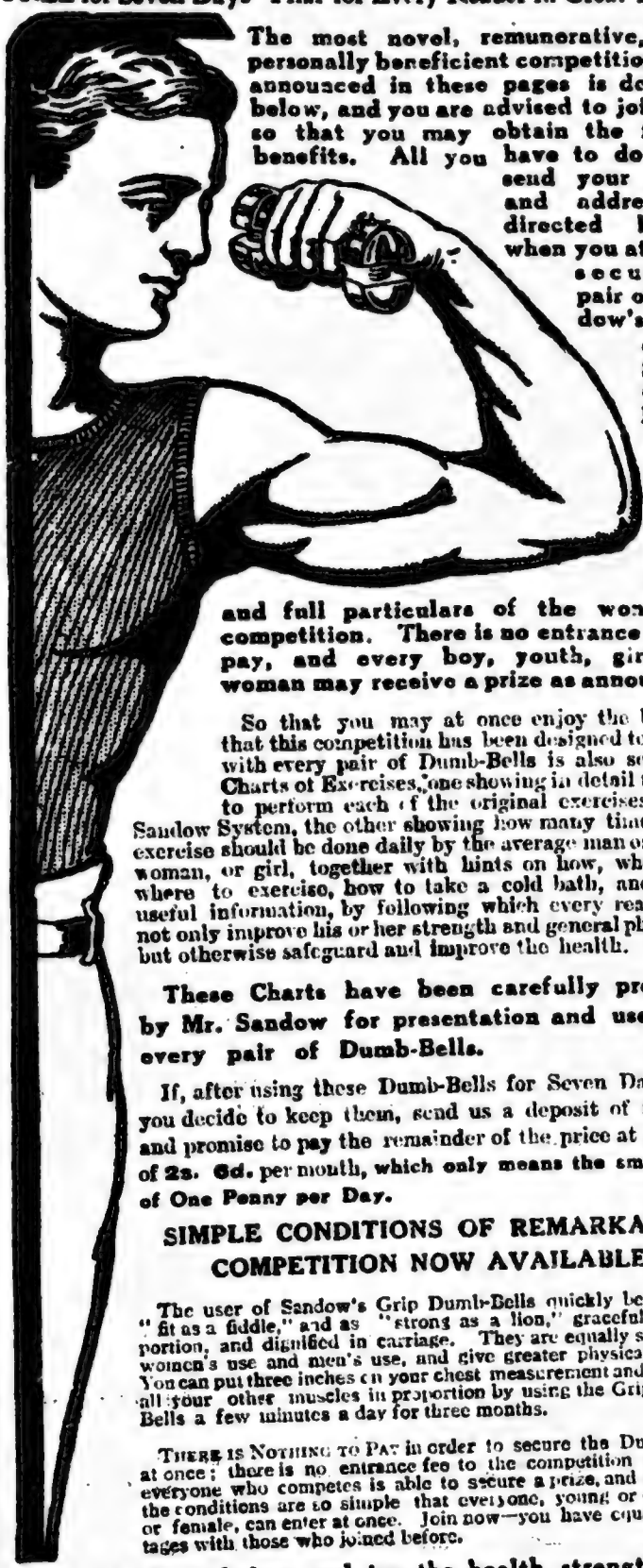
Address .....

F.47. .....

YOU CAN ENTER NOW THE MAGNIFICENT NEW COMPETITION FOR "JOHN BULL" READERS.

PRIZES FOR ALL.—£10 to £1 10s. to be given in Cash. MOST AMAZING OFFER EVER MADE.

Enter to-day and secure a pair of SANDOW'S DUMB-BELLS FREE for Seven Days' Trial for Every Reader in Great Britain.



The most novel, remunerative, and personally beneficient competition ever announced in these pages is detailed below, and you are advised to join now so that you may obtain the fullest benefits. All you have to do is to send your name and address as directed below, when you at once secure a pair of Sandow's Famous Spring-Grip-Dumb-bells for seven days' free home trial and full particulars of the wonderful competition. There is no entrance fee to pay, and every boy, youth, girl and woman may receive a prize as announced.

So that you may at once enjoy the benefits that this competition has been designed to bring, with every pair of Dumb-Bells is also sent Two Charts of Exercises, one showing in detail the way to perform each of the original exercises of the Sandow System, the other showing how many times each exercise should be done daily by the average man or youth, woman, or girl, together with hints on how, when and where to exercise, how to take a cold bath, and other useful information, by following which every reader can not only improve his or her strength and general physique, but otherwise safeguard and improve the health.

These Charts have been carefully prepared by Mr. Sandow for presentation and use with every pair of Dumb-Bells.

If, after using these Dumb-Bells for Seven Days free, you decide to keep them, send us a deposit of **2s. 6d.** and promise to pay the remainder of the price at the rate of **2s. 6d.** per month, **which only means the small sum of One Penny per Day.**

SIMPLE CONDITIONS OF REMARKABLE COMPETITION NOW AVAILABLE.

The user of Sandow's Grip Dumb-Bells quickly becomes as "fit as a fiddle," and as "strong as a lion," graceful in proportion, and dignified in carriage. They are equally suited for women's use and men's use, and give greater physical beauty. You can put three inches on your chest measurement and increase all your other muscles in proportion by using the Grip Dumb-Bells a few minutes a day for three months.

THERE IS NOTHING TO PAY in order to secure the Dumb-Bells at once; there is no entrance fee to the competition in which everyone who competes is able to secure a prize, and in which the conditions are so simple that everyone, young or old, male or female, can enter at once. Join now—you have equal advantages with those who joined before.

Fill in the form below, and try the health, strength, and dignity producing power of the Sandow Grip Dumb-Bells for yourself. You may test them for seven days free

Room 37, Sandow Hall, Bury Street, London, W.C.

Date .....1911.

Gentlemen,—Please send me by return one pair * of your Gentlemen's Spring-Grip Dumb-bells at .. .. .. **12s. 6d.**
Suitable for age 18 and upwards.

Youths' Spring-Grip Dumb-bells at .. .. .. **10s. 6d.**
Suitable for age 14 to 18.

Ladies' Spring-Grip Dumb-bells at .. .. .. **10s. 6d.**
Suitable for age 16 and upwards.

This order is given on condition that, after Seven Days' *Free Trial*, should I decide not to keep the Dumb-bells, I may return them immediately direct to Sandow Hall, and no charge whatsoever will be made.

FREE TRIAL.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

* Please Cross out Sizes not required.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*All readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue.*

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of enquiries received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only those of general interest will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.

AUTHORS and artists submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work when stamped, addressed envelopes are sent for the purpose. All matter submitted kept as original unless otherwise stated. The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (2 pages).

The Editor cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.

Correspondents are requested not to send original certificates, testimonials, etc., as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated, with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.

FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of putting our readers into communication with one another. If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.

"Northern Terror."—You will find the prospectus on pages 502 and 503. Go in for them.

M. M. (Clapton) was deserted with three little children by a *Freemason* husband and is now kept virtually a prisoner by a Freemason landlord. The latter fact is explained by her reluctance to part with her piano.

"Reader" (Dublin) has had his name enrolled at the War Office for 19 years for a *Meritorious Service medal*. He complains that he has not yet got it, although he has repeatedly applied. Our friend should remember that with the medal there is a money allowance of £10 per year, and that only a certain sum is expended annually. The reason he has been waiting all this time is because some of his late comrades won't die.

"Provincial" says we are still in a state of barbarism compared with *Italian sculptors*, but surely sculpture is a matter of taste.

P. C. H. (Regent's Park) bought a baby-carriage on "*easy terms*." It broke down, and he could get no satisfaction from the vendors. Indeed, he was summoned to the Warwick County Court, could not afford to appear, and is now threatened with an execution. Alas, we can only advise him to be more careful another time, but we entirely disapprove of summonses in distant County Courts. It is not everybody who can afford to employ a solicitor.

W. W. (Lavender Hill).—*Watchmakers* often wriggle out of their "*guarantees*." Some would probably be glad to give you one for ever, and you would have to pay just the same.

"Theatre-goer."—It certainly does sound unconscionable of suburban *theatres* to raise the price of *seats* which are *booked* direct *in advance*. When an agent acts as intermediary, no doubt he wants a bit.

Dr. D. K. (Partick).—We never denied that *vaccinators* often publish leaflets with alarming pictures of children disfigured by small-pox.

M. P. (Derby).—No doubt there are many cases of hardship *re old age pensions*, but if you once began to differentiate about the value of old people's services, there would be no end to the controversies.

"Fifish" (Bath).—Mistrust all firms which want fees for obtaining *employment on steamships*.

J. D. C. (Birkdale) complains of the methods of *The Southport Mutual Self Help Money Society*. They certainly do not sound generous.

W. S. (Aldgate) complains of *sanitary arrangements at Antwerp*. But we can't begin inspecting the nuisances of the whole Continent.

"Yorkshire Lad."—If people did not like "*selling stamps* for nothing," we presume they would not trouble to apply to be licensed.

"A Lover of Progress" (Sekondi, Gold Coast) says mischief is being done out there by exaggerating the importance of "*loin-cloth kings*."

"A Supporter of 'John Bull.'" (Bradford) has a brother who "*emigrated to America* three years ago, and is not in a bad position now," but advises intending emigrants to stay at home, as "there is not enough work for the people out there already, let alone the shiploads which arrive each week."

J. E. H. (Rotherhithe).—We can understand differences of opinion about the charm of *public bands on Sunday mornings*, when some of us like to enjoy a snooze.

"A Visitor."—Yes, scandalous, but it is not only at Folkestone that railway *porters* have to *depend on tips*. Is it not a fact that railway companies pretend to dismiss any servant who accepts a tip?

A. W. (Kingston).—We really cannot go into the case of a bus conductor who was summoned by a spiteful policeman for *loitering thirty years ago*.

"Reader" (Ponders End) has had the "*bums*" in and writes "They have took nearly all my home for the sum of £2 4s. 6d. and come like men in the Night would come when me and my wife was up at the Office and i have not spent my money in drink as we are all teetotalez, and they call themself Gentlemen." We are very sorry for "Reader." What about a "Human Document"?

J. H. H. (Nottingham) sends us a copy of an insurance journal with a special article headed "Bottomley's End." *Alas! poor Bottomley*—we knew him well!

"Weekly Reader" (Glasgow).—You can obtain our Prudential Pamphlet through any local newsagent, or by writing direct to this office. The price is 1d. per copy, postage ½d.

T. W. (Spelonken, Transvaal).—Bless you, we are not jealous about your *letters to "Mrs. Bull."* You are at a safe distance. The authorities will probably keep you busy if you refuse to fill up their Dutch Census forms.

"Kismet" (West Norwood) complains that men *born in India* of European parents do not stand a *chance of preferment* without the hall-mark of the mother-country.

(Continued on page 514.)

A Football Trainer

VIGOUR, "FORM," ENDURANCE—

A victory which blots out the *failures of* 25 *years*, a victory for ever notable for the superb "*condition*" of the cup winners, such are the magnificent results achieved by the aid of Phosferine, and in proof of which, trainer H. J. Stacey *telegraphed*—

"Thanks to Phosferine, Bridport won cup after trying 25 years. (*April* 8, 1911).

Such a straightforward statement clearly indicates how *thoroughly* Phosferine provided the Bridport Players with the *unlimited vigour* which enabled them to so brilliantly redeem the *defeats of* 25 *years*. The foresight and judgment of Mr. Stacey in training his men on Phosferine are repaid a thousandfold in the splendid form and endurance all displayed, and it is evident that if Phosferine can change an average team into formidable opponents, its qualities will be *every bit as serviceable to all manner of workers*.

ASSURED TO WINNING TEAM.

Mr. H. J. Stacey, 17, St. Michaels, Bridport, writes:—"I gave a dose of Phosferine to each member of the team at the Railway Station at 1.15, then another in the Dressing Room at Portland at 2.45, and then another at half-time. It is needless to say *they won* by 3 to 0 against Portland Wanderers, who had not been beaten on their own ground in the South Dorset League this season, and they claim that their ground is *worth* 3 *goals advantage* to them in the match. The first half was played in a Snow Storm and all through the game a terrific gale was blowing. We had to play against the wind in the first half and scored 1 goal. Our team say they stood the wind much better than they thought they would and felt *direct benefit* from Phosferine. On April 8 we play for the South Dorset Junior League Cup, and I propose to let each member of the team have a dose each night and morning during the week." On April 8 Mr. Stacey telegraphed:—"Thanks to Phosferine, Bridport won Cup after trying 25 years."

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

NEURALGIA
RHEUMATISM
BRAIN-FAG
LASSITUDE
INDIGESTION

MATERNITY WEAKNESS
NERVOUS HEADACHES
PREMATURE DECAY
INFLUENZA
ANÆMIA
NEURITIS

HYSTERIA
SLEEPLESSNESS
EXHAUSTION
MALARIA
NERVOUSNESS

And all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

The Royal Tonic.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands.

To the Royal Family
H.I.M. The Empress of Russia
H.I.M. the Dowager Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Greece
H.M. the King of Spain
The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

GRAVES

WE DELIVER immediately this Powerful High-Grade Gramophone including **Ten Brilliant Disc Record Selections** and all accessories, Carriage Paid to all approved orders for **5/-** with order, and if when you have heard the instrument in your own home, you are delighted with its performance and fully convinced of the exceptional value and bona-fide character of this remarkable offer, the balance of **45/-** is payable by Nine Monthly Payments of **5/-** or one payment of **40/-** if you accept the Cash Discount.

THIS HANDSOME WELL-BUILT GRAMOPHONE is our own exclusive speciality, absolutely up-to-date and contains every modern improvement. **The Cabinet** is a handsome and substantial construction in **solid dark Oak,** 12½in × 12½in × 5½in, polished to a fine piano finish and embellished with a tasteful decorative Art Metal Panel of Grecian design. **Powerful silent Steel Motor,** finely proportioned nickel plated **Taper Tone Arm,** solid 10in Turntable, large 16in Sound Horn with nine leaves, and decorated in a charming combination of softly blended Art Shades and colourings. The **Sound Reproducer** follows the principles of the latest patents and is sufficiently powerful to perform full **Military Band Selections** with superb brilliance and realistic effect, and so exquisitely sensitive as to reproduce with amazing naturalness the most subdued and delicate passages of orchestration, as well as the minutest variations of the solo artiste's voice.

The "Daily Chronicle" says (Dec. 10th, 1910)—
"To hear a Graves Gramophone is to realise the best and latest word in Gramophone Perfection; it renders music *as* music; it does not give it with a muttered accompaniment of its own; and it reproduces the human voice with an exactitude quite startling—its value is marvellous."

IN YOUR HOME GRAMOPHONE CONCERTS you may hear the finest performances of the World's Greatest Bands and Orchestras, the noblest compositions of the great Composers, the jests and drolleries of your favourite Kings of Laughter, the Gems of the Operas, the masterpieces of Sacred Music, the popular songs of the Great Star Artistes, and everything worth listening to may be reproduced in your own family circle with lifelike naturalness and entrancing effect. For your festive gatherings a Graves Gramophone is the **Prince of Entertainers. It Breaks the Ice.** It provides a programme for all tastes, and as your friends gather round and hear its humour and drollery, coldness and reserve disappear, and your social gatherings are an assured success. **2/- in the £ Cash Discount.**

This is a Straightforward Honest Offer.
There are no tricks or complications. Graves Gramophones are SOLD SOLELY ON THEIR MERITS, and unless you are completely charmed and delighted when you have heard the machine and records, you are under no obligation whatever to keep it. WE INSTANTLY RETURN every penny you have paid, without a moment's hesitation. **Don't be prejudiced,** unless you have heard an up-to-date Graves Gramophone, you can form no idea of the powers of this amazing instrument, and you simply don't know what you are missing. Have it sent on approval at our expense, hear it at your leisure in your own home, and if you think we have overstated its attractions BY A SINGLE WORD, simply send it back carriage forward, and have your money refunded at once. We are willing to stand or fall by your decision. Warranted for Three Years. Will last for a lifetime.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD

Write for our New Gramophone Catalogue.
A Postcard will bring you our New Art Gramophone Catalogue, which is a complete illustrated guide to the latest and best models in both needle and sapphire machines. This attractive work gives you more interesting and practical Gramophone information in half an hour than you would otherwise learn in years. Every style handsomely illustrated. Full Specifications given to every model, and all these high-grade machines are supplied on Easy Monthly Payment Terms or Discount for Cash.

IMPORTANT. All Gramophone Owners should write for our extraordinary offer of Needle Disc Records, arranged in complete programmes of **20** magnificent selections, delivered complete on approval for **2/6** with order and easy monthly payments. We are headquarters for Records and give you a marvellous choice of the cream of the world's talent in every department. Send a Postcard to-day for price list and particulars.

GRAMOPHONES

THE "INSURED SHOE."

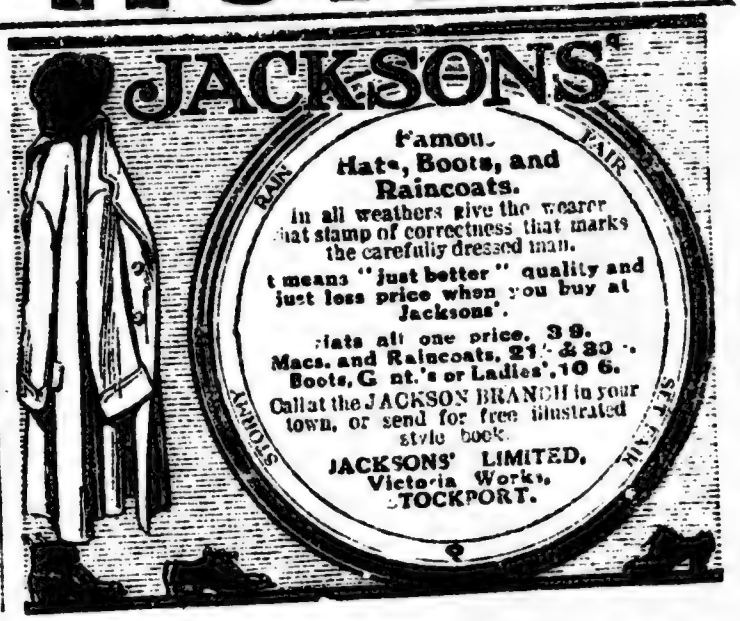
Below is a copy of a card issued with each pair of our noted "Insured Shoes." . . . . It speaks for itself and proves what entire confidence we are able to place in the wearing qualities of this line of specially manufactured Gentlemen's Boots.

"Should the Soles wear through within three months from date of purchase, we will have pleasure in re-soling them gratis. Should the leather of the Uppers break through within the same period of time, we will gladly give you a new pair without charge."

• • • • •

Made in a variety of leathers and in every shape, width and size, this boot is a really splendid example of footwear, and it is neither too heavy nor too light. Price **12/9**

Selfridge & Co., Ltd.,
Oxford Street, London, W.


JACKSONS'
Famous
Hats, Boots, and
Raincoats.
In all weathers give the wearer that stamp of correctness that marks the carefully dressed man.
It means "just better" quality and just less price when you buy at Jacksons'.
Hats all one price, 3 9.
Macs. and Raincoats, 21/- & 30/-
Boots, Gent.'s or Ladies', 10 6.
Call at the JACKSON BRANCH in your town, or send for free illustrated style book.
JACKSONS' LIMITED,
Victoria Works,
STOCKPORT.
RAIN
FAIR
STORMY
SHINE

A. W. B. (Hampstead) considers our *biscuits indelicate* fare. "Honi soit . . ." etc.

W. E. B. B. (Bristol) states a *grievance in the Mercantile Marine*. When a ship travels westward, the clock is put back during the working hours, when eastward put on during the night. And there are no Bank Holidays on board ship.

F. H. (Brixton Hill) says that *dressmakers* are abominably overworked and underpaid.

E. R. K. (Elgin Avenue) acted the *Good Samaritan* by providing money for a man's railway fare home. He met the man in the street, and was given a pitiable tale of having been discharged from hospital without means of reaching his destination. After giving him the needful, our correspondent took his name and address, and forwarded it or to us—with a view to our rendering further help. We communicated with the man at the address given, but our letter is returned, marked "unknown." Presumably our correspondent has been "had."

G. E. D. (Thurso) takes the view that *ex-Army men are useless in civilian life*, and that they "like to fight their battles over again on the business side of a polished counter, when the foam is on the beer." Too bad!

E. C. W. (Aldershot) offers to look into *soldiers' grievances* if we will only forward particulars. We tender our thanks for the offer, but beg to intimate that in no circumstances are the names of our correspondents revealed.

F. B. (Liverpool) complains about the inconvenience a depositor in the *Post Office Savings Bank* is put to when he wishes to withdraw an amount in the case of illness. We agree. But a Business Post Office is coming.

"Friend" (Catford) met with an accident, had *damages awarded*, and now can't find the man he sued. It often happens so.

"Sufferer" (Haslar) complains about the *Naval Hospital*. We have no means of verifying his statements, but if a tenth part of them are true, the hospital must be a most undesirable place to be in.

J. S. H. (Clapham Common), while visiting Marlborough (not the Duke but the town), saw some *potatoes with a ticket marked* 1½d., so he handed twopence and waited at the cashier's desk for his change. This, however, was wickedly refused him and, when he proceeded to argue the matter, he was told the price was 2d. for a single pound and 3½d. for 3 lbs. This is indeed scandalous, and we shall not be surprised to hear that our Scottish correspondents intend to give Marlborough a wide berth in future.

A. S. (Harringay) finds the "veiled and sometimes open antagonism" of John Bull "to the truth contained in *the Bible* very distressing." As we are great admirers of that book, we can only advise him not to extend his initials.

F.W.B. (Peckham) asks, "Is it the laws of this country for a man *to buy his own goods back after he has had them stolen from him?*" We should have thought this was not so much a legal question as a matter of taste. It appears that he "handed clothes that cost one pound five shillings and sixpence to the caretaker of a Lodging House, but instead of putting them secure, they was put in the caretaker's room and instead of locking the Door went out and left it open." The result was that they were stolen and "sold to a second-hand clothes Dealer for 2 shillings, although the good Lady that bought them called in two detectives within ten minutes of buying them, and gave them the description of the Man and the way he had gone, they did not bother to catch the thief but Had it been some Noble ha lost their overcoat they would have caught the thief and they would have had their goods returned to t em, but when I went to the Dective office I was told that I could have the clothes by paying 2 shillings which I do not intend to do. The Landlord of the lodgeing house had all the Blankets pledged by the cartekar previous to this one, but could get all his things back and got Payed for his trouble. I can be the Mug and pay My own things if I like." Of course there is one law for the rich and one for the poor, and we should advise our friend to visit a less Socialistic community another time.

W. D. (Aberdeen) asks: "Did you ever have your *ears boxed by a Scotsman?*" No, nor our leg pulled.

W. G. (London, E.C.) writes: "There is a vast difference between *Temperence and Total Abstinance*. You it appears only hear the bad side. You must not judge everybody else by a few people, for instance I am practilly called a scoundrell because you are not. I have to fight hard for you and yours sometimes. Between us two and my boy I scored off one of my principal Enemies. When we passing your poster in Aldwych when I turned to him I says 'Take off your hat quick.' Wondering my compahion did as I asked and on turring he saw your poster, and as our friend Crow would say 'He was rendered absolutely speechless.' But to return take my family—Dad, us three boys, threo girls. All have medals for being total abstainers while my brother Jim aged 7 is well on his road to his medal. We are not total abstainers for the fun of it, but entirely on principal."

R. W. T. (Wrexham).—If you were warned in advance against the *Commission Agent*, why on earth did you bet with him, and why do you now complain to us? Surely you have only yourself to blame.

M. V. C. (Shepherdswell) complains of the *privations and indignities to which sub-postmasters and mistresses are exposed*. He was one once but gave it up and has been shaking hands with himself ever since. We are all in favour of gymnastics, but we think that a less monotonous exercise might be discovered.

G. A. (South Tottenham) says he hardly knows how to ask us to do this for him, but he wants us to expose a firm of garden-netting makers who took his money and sent nothing in return. Now they have an opportunity of offering an explanation.

A. H. P. (Cardiff) quotes a well-known physician as saying: "*Abstinence* is not fanaticism or asceticism, but rational self-control." We should have thought that applied rather to temperance.

"A Musician" (Islington) writes: "I feel confident that *pianos* give more pleasure than cause annoyance." Is he a professional musician?

H. A. O. (Manchester) writes that it is terrible for a *poor parrot* to be bereft of feathers and that its food should be less greasy.

J. H. O'D. (Bognluca) wants us to help her to recover a *fortune* which she says is being *detained by the Bank of England*. Anything else in a small way?

N. M. thinks it is high time that inspectors should wake up some of the *fried fish shops* because "it is very rare you can get a good piece of fish. The butchers are more fair as you see what you are buying. When you get a piece of fish it stinks under a beautiful cloak of batter. I think the majority of fish shops buy up refuse of other shops for a mere song. Why should they be allowed to sell such rubbish?" Some of the shops we know smell very appetising.

"Nourishing Tremor."—See pages 502 and 506.—Be sure to apply for some of them.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]

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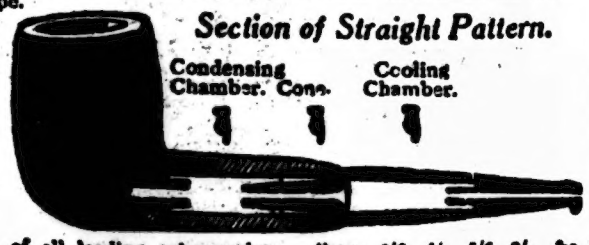

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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.
("*Double U. L.*" of Lotinga's Weekly *and* "*Magpie*" of The Globe.)

Medley.

Plenty of trainers like the Hermit blood, both for jumping and giving horses a certain style or flashiness.

I wonder how many owners, even among the leaders of the Turf, owe their trainers very heavy training bills.

Jockeys are told to "get up" in a paddock, whilst amateur horsemen are requested "to be good enough to mount."

The Eton boys detest Windsor race days for, of course, they are not only not allowed, or not supposed, to go, but they are even forbidden to go on the river until the races are over.

It is noticeable how very few jockeys now wear spurs. Upon the fillies this is very rarely indeed done, but whatever their mount, one always sees more without the little silver rowel than with it.

Neophyte cricketers like to go inside the nets for the ground men to bowl at them late in the day, when the trundlers are somewhat tired, as in the morning they come up so fresh and bowl so fast that any but a good bat is a bit nervous.

There never ought to be any betting permitted in the narrow neck of an entrance such as at Alexandra Park, where the jam is terrible and particularly awkward, as, being on the slope, it is all one can do to keep on his feet in trying to push in or out of Tattersall's.

Prophetic.

We are now on the eve of really important autumn sport. At Newbury this afternoon (Thursday) Gala Tweed dare not be missed for the Lambourne Welter, Icy Cup will, if saddled, go very near in the sprint handicap, and whatever beats Gay Laura—and everybody hopes it will be Mirabeau would gain the Nursery.

At Kempton Park, whichever Joyner runs—on the last form, probably Iron Mask II.—must be thereabouts in the Richmond Plate; and I like nothing better than the bottom weight Dilwyn for the Coventry Plate. On Saturday, Sangaree must surely win a race at last in the Isleworth Plate, and I can see nothing to beat the nicely-treated

Succour

for the Duke of York's Stakes, and only in his absence would go for the bottom weight, Knight of Honour. Mauve Patch is well in the Rivermead Handicap, whilst at Haydock Park Rye Grass and Brandimintine ought to gain their respective races.

For the Cesarewitch I can see nothing that yields such splendid opportunities as

Martingale II.,

each way, with obvious danger from Mirador, *if* eventually the best of Taylor's. For a "double," take the two with

Long Set,

and if wanting yet another, Lonawand.

HARMONY FOR THE HOME.

The lover of good music has no longer any ground for complaining of its cost. With the publication of the "New Portfolio of Copyright Songs and Music"—full music size—on September 29th the most popular pieces never hitherto purchased at less than 1s. 6d. to 4s. become obtainable at a nominal cost. The best numbers in the works of the composers of "The Dollar Princess," "The Geisha," and "The Belle of New York" will be included in the various parts at a cost of 7d. for five pieces.

Among the many pieces of music secured for the series is Reginald de Koven's song, "O Promise Me," with which Mr. Hayden Coffin made so remarkable a success in the comic opera, "Maid Marian." "Equally acceptable are Frank Lambert's "O Breathe Not His Name," Bertram Lestrange's Two-Step, "Nevada," some of the finest compositions of P. Buccalossi, and the works of Theo Bonheur and other eminent composers who are among the contributors to "The New Portfolio."

The copyright value of the music in this new series amounts to many thousands of pounds. The capital outlay on the enterprise is necessarily considerable, but the encouragement given to the proprietors, Messrs. George Newnes, Ltd., by the success of "The Strand Musical" last year warrants their assumption that an equally enthusiastic welcome awaits "The New Portfolio."

THE GOOD THING OF THE WEEK.

This, of course, is "Northern Terrors." For Forms, &c., see pages 502 and 503.

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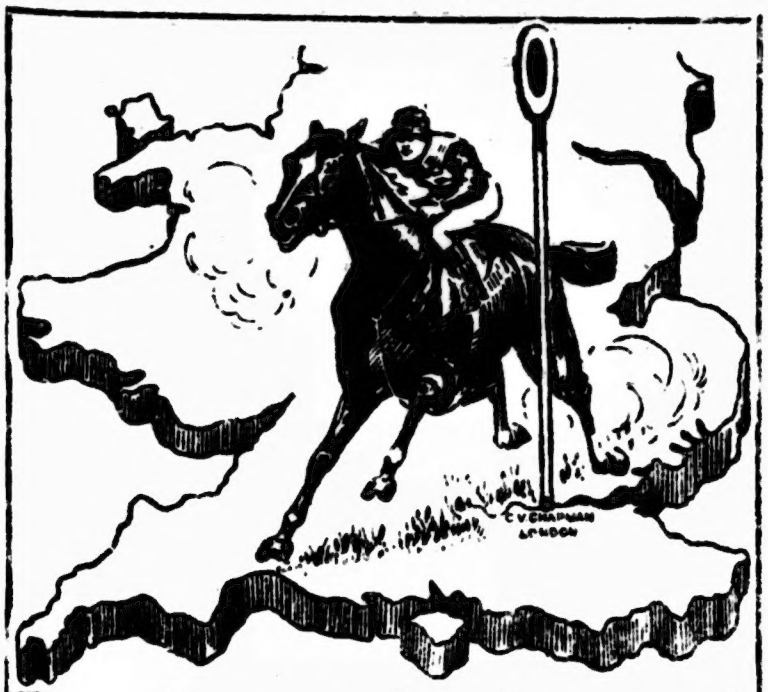

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